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ART. I. *An Account of a Geographical and Astronomical Expedition to the Northern Parts of Russia*, for ascertaining the Degrees of Latitude and Longitude of the Mouth of the River Kovima; of the whole Coast of the Tshutski, to East Cape; and of the Islands in the Eastern Ocean, stretching to the American Coast: Performed, by Command of her Imperial Majesty Catherine the Second, Empress of all the Russias, by Commodore Joseph Billings, in the Years 1785, &c to 1794. The Whole narrated, from the original Papers, by Martin Sauer, Secretary to the Expedition. 4to. pp. 400. 2l. 2s. Boards. Cadell and Davies. 1802.

THE character of the late Empress of Russia, in all points of view a prominent object of attention, has been much discussed, and is now perhaps well understood. Possessing some of the imperfections of human nature, in common with the lowest of mortals, yet her mind was not cast in an ordinary mould; and while her frailties for ever sullied her reputation, her talents intitled her to one of the highest stations among those of that elevated rank to which fortune so remarkably conducted her. As a woman, so also as a sovereign, the conduct of Catherine is open to censure: but in the latter view she challenges also much commendation. The wisdom and the patriotism of her measures have been often made manifest; and while her ambition was perhaps boundless, her desire to promote the amelioration of her country and increase the comforts of her subjects was both ardent and active. The volume, of which we are now to give an account, affords one illustration of the great features of her portrait; and we doubt not that our readers will thank us for a detailed view of its contents.

The *object* of the expedition here recorded is sufficiently set forth in the title page; and the immediate *cause* of it is attributed, by Mr. Sauer, to the appearance of Mr. Coxe's account of the Russian discoveries between Asia and America. From the time of that publication, the vast extent of territory acknowleging the sovereignty of Russia became a topic of conver-

sation at Court; and Mr. Coxe and Dr. Pallas suggested the propriety of an expedition for examining those distant parts of the Empire, which Captain Cook was unable to explore. They proposed a plan to the Empress, which she approved: a mandate was ordered to be prepared for the admiralty; Mr. Billings, who had been astronomical assistant in Cook's last voyage, was appointed to the chief command; and Mr. Sauer, at the request of Mr. Billings and Professor Pallas, accompanied the expedition as private secretary and translator.

The route to be pursued over land, the measures to be adopted, and in fact every thing proposed to be accomplished by the undertaking, were precisely laid down in the instructions given to Captain Billings; which instructions are inserted as an appendix to the present volume. They are composed with considerable ability, and contain maxims of the shrewdest policy. The Russian dominion was indeed to be extended, but by measures most mild and conciliatory; no force was to be employed against the inhabitants of discovered islands; and attacks were to be guarded and prevented rather than repulsed and punished:

"It is too often the fault of the adventurers, (says the seventeenth article,) when they attack these people with fire and sword, and bring them to a kind of despair; on the contrary, humane and friendly behaviour keeps them quiet; it is, therefore, strongly recommended to you to proceed with them in this mild manner, and not to change your conduct till open and unavoidable danger compel you to shed blood; keep yourself in constant readiness, however; employing your arms only to frighten, and not to destroy, these unhappy creatures, endeavouring rather to take one of them alive; and such prisoner you may caress, make him presents, hang a medal about his neck, explaining to him, that by this you make him your friend, and will know him when he comes to you again; keep him prisoner as short a time as possible; and, when you release him, give him necessaries, and persuade him to tell his countrymen of your behaviour to him, and that he may return to the ship with whom he pleases, without fear; promising him, then, presents of instruments for catching animals, or whatever he likes; and that he will be received in a friendly manner by all your people, if he only shews the medal about his neck."

These temperate and humane orders were issued by a government which had commanded the storming of Ismael and of Warsaw!

In the month of October 1785, the party destined for the expedition left Petersburgh, and took their route through Moscow, Paulova, Kazan, Ecaterineburgh, Tobolsk, Tomsk; and on the 14th of February 1786, the detachment, in which were Captain Billings and the author, arrived at Irkutsk. No material occurrence happening on the road, and the places passed having

having been often described, Mr. S. very briefly relates his journey. At Irkutsk, the party expected to receive every necessary article for constructing a ship of 85 feet keel; together with provision, clothing for five years, candles, soap, and every kind of commodity for each officer; in addition to the ordinary allowance for a command of 300 men to be forwarded upwards of 4000 versts (nearly 2650 miles). The capital of Siberia had never before so much business to transact. By great exertions, the instruments, &c. were packed up in boxes, covered with canvas, pitched all over, and sewn in soal leather; hatchets, hammers, &c. were received in abundance; and on the 28th of April, a party of the travellers began to move forwards to Katsheega Pristan.

'Irkutsk (according to Mr. Sauer) contains 2500 houses, chiefly of wood, 12 stone churches, a cathedral, and two monasteries; beside which, there are several public buildings, an hospital, an inoculating house, a seminary for the study of divinity, a public school, a library and collection of curiosities; also a theatre, of which the performers are all young men and women natives of Irkutsk. The representations are chiefly confined to national pieces, which they get up with astonishing propriety; and they have very excellent musicians belonging to the different regiments, besides the band of the Governor General.'

The longitude of Irkutsk, determined by Captain Billings, is 103°, 46′, 45″ east of Greenwich, and latitude 52°, 16′, 30″. A considerable trade is carried on with the Chinese. Mr. Sauer relates that the prices of articles are now about three times as high as they were when Mr. Coxe reported them.

'The society established, (says Mr. S.,) and the liberal hospitality of the first order of inhabitants, is superior to that in any part of Russia, and really seems to infuse a spirit of consequence into the minds of the lower sort of people. I think that their schools and theatres contribute much to this; but most of all the tutors to the children of the more opulent. These generally consist of Poles, Swedes, French, and some of the Jesuitic order, who have been under the necessity of travelling.

'Numbers of mechanics, artists, and artificers of great abilities, whose exertions were selfish in Russia, here exert themselves for the benefit of the community; and, as merit is the chief introduction to independent society, so all who possess it meet with liberal encouragement; and, unless their characters are sullied by acts of criminality, they are countenanced and supported. The unfortunate are generously distinguished from the villainous.'

If so much virtue exists in Siberia, it is no great punishment, except for the depraved, to be banished thither.

On the 29th of May, Mr. Sauer arrived at Jakutsk, situated on the river Lena, down which the party and goods had been conveyed. Here the navigation ended; and the baggage,

&c. were to be carried, across an uninhabited country, to Ochotsk, for which conveyance 2000 horses were necessary.

On the 9th of June, the party in which were Captain Billings and the author left Jakutsk, and crossed the Lena to the plains called the Yarmank. Here Mr. Sauer noticed a remarkable plant called by the Russians Zemlennoi Laudon, or frankincense of the earth, an aromatic root given to children for pains in the bowels;—and in the same meadows, Mr. S. observed Maiden-hair * which the Cossacs dry, and use for hops.

Having passed the Aldan, and the ford of the Belia Reka, (White River) Mr. S. on the 23d crossed a mountain called the Tshakdall. Here, he says, 'we observed for the first time the plant called by the Russians Piania Trava (Rhododendron Chrysanthemum), held in great estimation by all the different tribes of Siberian Tartars, as also by the Russians, for its efficacy in curing rheumatic complaints and old ulcerated wounds, from whatever cause they spring. It is drunk in a strong decoction in a vapour bath, and the wounds are washed with it. The mountain tops are covered with this plant and with the (Pinus Cembra) creeping cedar.'

The party with Captain Billings arrived at Ochotsk on the 3d of July, and there met Mr. Saretsheff, who had been previously deputed to superintend the building of the vessels to be employed in the expedition: but not even the timber for them had been cut; since none that was proper could be found nearer than 70 versts ($104\frac{1}{2}$ versts make a degree) up the Ochot, and the ship-builders and assistants had been dispatched to fell timber only two days before Captain Billings's arrival.

While at Ochotsk, the party saw a duck-chase, which is curiously managed:

'Toward the evening, of the 14th,' says Mr. S. 'appearances indicated a fine succeeding day, according to the prediction of the Lamuti, who waited on the commandant, requesting his permission to allow them, the Yakuti, and as many of the inhabitants as were willing, to go the next morning on a duck-chase out to sea, and return with the flowing tide. The permission was made public.

'Wednesday the 15th, between three and four o'clock in the morning, the weather being calm and cloudy, about 50 small canoes, with Lamuti, Yakuti, and a few Russians, went out to sea, and returned with the tide at noon, driving before them an immense number of the sea-duck, called Turpan. (Toucan.) When they were got into the bay of Kuchtui, about a mile from its discharge into the sea, they were surrounded by more than 200 canoes, drawn up in a regular line, forming a crescent. Thus inclosed, the tide left them in about six inches water, and all the canoes were aground. A signal

* *Adianthum Nigrum*, or capillaire.

officer

officer (the policy master) appointed by the commandant gave the word for a general attack, when a scene of the most whimsical confusion ensued. Men, women, and children, plunged in an instant into the water; some armed with short bludgeons, and others with strings and nets. While one knocked on the head all that came in his or her way, others of the same party strung or netted them, all hurly burley, huddling over each other. No field of battle is subject to such a variety of incidents and transitions. An ill-directed blow sometimes lights on the hand of a friend, instead of the head of the foe. Suddenly the shrieks, scolding, and swearing of the women, and wrangling among all, change to peals of laughter and merriment; and the supplication of the ducks, and the noise of myriads of gulls hovering about, form the strangest medley of sounds, perhaps, that were ever heard. The women caught by far the greater quantity; and the whole number destroyed amounted to more than six thousand five hundred.

'The Turpan is as large as a domestic duck. The neck short; the bill black, short, and narrow, with a callous knob on the nostrils; the feathers black, with dark grey spots. They moult all the quill feathers at once, and consequently cannot fly; being driven, therefore, into shallow water, they are prevented from effecting their escape by diving, and become an easy prey. They taste very fishy, but make an agreeable change of food for the poor inhabitants. When salted and smoke dried, they are esteemed an excellent whet, with a dram, before dinner.'

The instructions given by the Russian government to Captain Billings were to proceed, by sea, from Ochotsk to Izshiga, to cross the country of the Tshutski, and to descend down the Omolon to the Kovima: but this plan was abandoned, chiefly on account of an unfriendly disposition then shewn to the Russians by the Tshutski; and, a proper guide offering to conduct the party to the Kovima by the Amicon, it left Ochotsk on the 3d of August, and crossed the Ochot and Aglikit. Arriving at some Tungoose summer huts, Captain B. hired 22 reindeer, and forwarded Mr. Sauer with dispatches to Lieutenant Bering, (who had been sent from Jakutsk to Virchni Kovima,) directing him to proceed to Seredni, and, if possible, to procure wood for constructing three vessels to navigate the Icy Sea.

'Having with me (says Mr. S.) the ship-builder and my servant, at three P. M. I left the party, mounted on a beautiful young reindeer; the saddle placed on its shoulders, without stirrups; no bridle, but a leather thong about five fathom long tied round the head of the deer; this is kept in the rider's left hand, that he may prevent its escape if he falls, and, when refreshing, have a little scope to select its food. A strong stick about five feet long assists the rider to mount; though the Tungoose, for this purpose, use their bow; standing on the right side of the deer, they put the left leg upon the saddle, lean on the stick with the right hand, and spring up with astonishing ap-

parent ease: we, however, could not effect it by any means without assistance; and, during about three hours travelling, I dare say that we fell near twenty times. The top of the saddle is square and flat, projecting a few inches over the sides of the deer; the seat is secured by drawing up the calves of the legs toward the thighs, and clinging fast to the projecting parts of the saddle, which at first causes astonishing pain to the thighs: by the third day, however, I became a very expert rider; the shipbuilder could not manage it at all, and went for the most part on foot: of course my travelling was not very expeditious.'

Mr. S. pursued his journey by the Amicon (the chief source of the Ingigirka), and reached Virchni Kovima on the 28th of September, after having suffered innumerable hardships in his round-about road. Mr. Bering had arrived on the 4th, and Captain Billings on the 8th: but the whole party, at the time of Mr. S.'s arrival, had not reached their place of destination. The writer gives a short description of the Tungoose, of their customs, manners, &c. According to him, they are independent, contented, resolute, and happy; regardless of heat and cold, fond of a rambling life, and so averse to permanence that they do not suffer their tents to remain six days in the same place; the reason which they assign for this restleness being, that their tents contract a disagreeable smell by remaining long in one spot.

When Mr. S. arrived at Virchni Kovima, the frozen rivers supported horses, and the thermometer was 18° below the freezing point of Reaumur.

The author was rejoiced at rejoining his party: but the circumstances under which they met were not favourable: no provisions had arrived from the contractor; few could be procured from the inhabitants, who, consisting of 8 males, had laid in provision sufficient only for their own consumption; and scarcely any fresh fish could now be caught. Distressing as these circumstances were, preparations for building a vessel of 50 feet keel were continued with great alacrity; and in a few days the party were relieved by arrivals of flour and butter, and by the fortunate capture of 145 large Nalime. In the month of November, the cold became so intense that no work could be performed; for the hatchets, when struck against the wood, broke like glass. We transcribe some of the effects mentioned in the thermometrical remarks given by Mr. S. for 8 days.

Nov. 22. thermometer 39½ at 6 P. M. 10 ounces of mercury in a stopped phial froze in 2½ hours.

Nov. 23. thermometer 30½ for half an hour, during which time the mercury was thawing.

Nov.

Nov. 27. 8—9. A.M. thermometer 40, a sealed bottle with Astracan brandy, exposed to the frost, thickened very much, but was not frozen.

Nov. 28. 12. M. thermometer $32\frac{1}{4}$, mercury thawed.

In a subsequent part, Mr. S. says that, the thermometer sinking to 43°, the Astracan brandy was frozen.

At the beginning of February, the cold abated: but the scurvy gained ground, for which a decoction of *Pinus Cembra*, with sweetwort and quassia, was used with success. On the 1st of April, Captain Billings pitched his astronomical tent. In May, every thing was going forwards with great success, when a fire broke out in the mechanic's hut, and the vessels were saved with difficulty, but all the brandy for the use of the expedition was consumed. On the 17th of May, the largest vessel, named the *Pallas* in honour of the great Russian naturalist, was launched; on the 19th, the smaller was also committed to the water; and on the 25th, the vessels sailed for Seredni Kovima, where they arrived on the 28th.

At the Omolon summer huts, the expedition met with Major Shmaileff, and two interpreters for the Tshutski and Koriak dialects. Major S. had accomplished the object of his journey, and completely reconciled the Tshutski to the Russians. Pursuing the course of the Kovima, the vessels arrived at its mouth on the 21st of June. Here Captain B., wishing to make his observations, took his astronomical tent to land; and while Mr. S. was accompanying him to land in a small boat, a curious phænomenon of astronomical refraction was observed. The hull of the Pallas (Captain B.'s ship) first seemed to sink, and then it totally disappeared: but, as the boat was rowed farther from her, she again became visible, hull, rigging, &c. but of an immense size, and considerably above the horizon. The weather was hazy, and the sun rather obscured.

Being prevented by the cloudy weather from making any observations, the Captain stood out into the Icy Sea in a direction North-north-east, but was soon compelled by the ice to return. On the 1st of July, he again shaped his course North, and was carried by the current two points to the West. On account of the ice, however, and of having lost sight of her companion, the Pallas stood again to the South: the ice was not so compact as to stop the vessel; and from the circumstance of shoaling water, Mr. S. was of opinion that they should soon have fallen in with some continent or island, if they had pursued their Northern course: but Captain B. was apprehensive of being hemmed in, and fearful for the smaller vessel, and therefore returned. The ships having rejoined, they again, on the

18th, steered North-east; and after having proceeded 30 miles, Captain B., finding that they were surrounded by ice, altered his course and resolved to give up the attempt. Thus ended that part of the Russian expedition which was to explore the Icy Sea.—At the end of the detail of this excursion, the author subjoins these remarks:

'The coast of the Icy Sea is moderately high, formed by projecting promontories and shallow bays, exposed to every wind except the south. The mountains are covered in different places with snow; which melting, produces small torrents rushing into the sea. They are composed of granite, quartz, and a hard black stone; and produce moss; a kind of vetch, the root of which is edible; creeping willow; and birch, not exceeding ten inches in height. The shores are covered with drift wood nearly to Barannoi Kamen, but no farther east. Along the shore are numerous remains of huts, and places where fires have been, which, in all probability, have been made and left by different hunters.

'The quadrupeds that we saw were rein-deer, pretty numerous; bears, but none white; wolves, foxes, stone fox, wild sheep, and the whisling marmot. The birds were, gulls of several sorts, ravens, hawks, black-headed buntings, snow-larks, a few partridges, geese, ducks, and divers.

'The productions of the sea are very few. We frequently hauled the seine, but only once caught the seld (herring) and muksoon (a small species of salmon). We saw several belluga, seals, and one whale, but no traces of shell-fish of any kind. The water was fresh to a considerable distance; the ice we frequently tried, but found it brackish, with neither ebb nor flow. The currents were very irregular, seldom setting any one way longer than the wind blew, at the unsettled rates of half a mile, a mile, and three miles and a half, per hour.

'The atmosphere was cold and chilly, the greatest heat that we experienced being while at anchor close in with the land in Wolves' Bay on the 15th July, when we had several claps of thunder. We had a gentle south-east breeze, and calms; and while the wind blew, the thermometer rose to 14° and 16° above the freezing point of Reaumur. During the intervening calms, it sunk to 6°, 7°, and 8°. The coldest day was the 12th July, the thermometer being then 2° below the freezing point. It frequently indicated 1° above 0 at the time when our rigging was incrusted with ice.

'The fogs here are very remarkable, continually hovering above the ice at no great height. At a distance they appear like islands in a haze; sometimes like vast columns of smoke. Once, in particular, we thought that the Tshutski had made signal-fires for us; but on a nearer approach we discovered our mistake.

'I observed the horizon to be most clear in the coldest weather, and am inclined to think that this navigation ought to be undertaken about the first of August. The more success is to be expected, from the testimony of the hunters and others who visit these parts, "that the ice never breaks up until St. Elias' day, the 20th July, Old

Old Stile (or the 31st July New Stile)." and I think it necessary to remark here, that my dates are all Old Stile, according to the custom of Russia.

'The estuary of the river Kovima at Shalauroff's winter buildings, by exact reckonings of bearings, course, and time, from places where observations were taken in the Icy Sea, and from Neizsni Ostrog, forwards and backwards, I fix in latitude 69° 16′, longitude 166° 10′; variation of the compass 17° 30′ east.'

In the relation of the voyage up the Kovima, Mr. S. gives an account of the fish which that river contains, of the beasts and birds that frequent its neighbourhood, and of the trees which grow near its banks. The account is valuable, although probably not so full as a naturalist, with Mr. S.'s opportunities, would have made it; the author very properly and modestly confessing his deficiency of knowlege in botany, mineralogy, &c.

On the high sandy shores of the Kovima, at a great depth, Mammont's (Mammoth's) teeth (tusks) are discovered in great abundance: the largest that Mr. S. found on the shores of the Icy Sea was in length 8 feet, 7 inches (French measurement) circumference of thickest part, (at 22 inches from the root,) 17 inches, and its weight was 115 lbs. avoirdupoise.

Pursuing their journey, the party arrived at Jakutsk on Nov. 13. where they met with Mr. Ledyard, who had formerly been acquainted with Captain Billings, when they were together with Cook. His intention was to attend the expedition to the American continent, for the purpose of exploring it on foot; and he went back with Captain Billings and Mr. S. to Irkutsk, where (as the public have already learnt from the accounts published by the African Association) he was arrested by order of the Empress of Russia.

While Mr. Sauer was at Jakutsk, he made particular inquiries concerning the travels of Lachoff to the Icy Sea. Lachoff referred him to Protodiakonoff, who in 1770 accompanied Lachoff from his winter buildings at the estuary of the Yana to Swatoi Noss. The account of their observations is thus given:

'They saw an immense herd of deer going to the south, and observed that their traces were from the north across the Icy Sea. Lachoff resolved, if possible, to find out whence they came, and in the beginning of April set out very early in the morning, with his nart drawn by dogs. Towards evening he arrived at an island, 70 versts from the promontory, in a due north direction, where he passed the night, and the next day proceeded farther, the traces of the deer serving as a guide. About noon he arrived at a second island, 20 versts distant, and in the same direction. The traces coming still farther from the north, he continued his route. At a small distance

from the second island, he found the ice so rugged and mountainous, as to prevent his proceeding with dogs. He observed no land; and therefore, after passing the night on the ice, he returned, and with great difficulty, for want of provisions for his dogs, regained Swatoi Noss. He represented his discovery to the Chancery of Yakutsk, and the intelligence was forwarded to St. Petersburgh. The Empress Catherine II. called the islands by the name of the discoverer, and gave him the exclusive right of collecting ivory and hunting animals in this place, and in any other that he might thereafter discover.

'In 1773, he went with five workmen in a boat to the islands, and continued across straits, where he found the sea very salt, and a current setting to the west. He soon saw land to the north, the weather being pretty clear, and arrived on what he called the third island. The shore was covered with drift wood. The land was very mountainous, and seemingly of great extent; but no wood was seen growing, nor did he observe the traces of any human being. He found some tusks of the mammont, saw the tracks of animals, and returned (without making any other discovery) to the first island, where Lachoff built a hut of the drift wood, and passed the winter. One of his companions left a kettle and a palma on the third island.

'This was reckoned a discovery of some importance, and the land surveyor Chvoinoff received orders from the Chancery of Yakutsk to accompany Lachoff to this farthest land, and take an exact survey of the same. In 1775, on the 9th February, he left Yakutsk, arrived on the 26th March at Ust Yansk Zemovia, or winter huts, at the estuary of the Yana. He immediately proceeded across the bay to Swatoi Noss, which is 400 versts from the discharge of the river, in a direction north-north-east. On the 6th May he arrived at the first island, which is 150 versts long, and 80 versts broad, on the widest part, and 20 versts on the narrowest. In the middle is a lake of considerable extent, but very shallow, and the borders of which are steep. The whole island, except three or four inconsiderable rocky mountains, is composed of ice and sand; and, as the shores fall, from the heat of the sun's thawing them, the tusks and bones of the mammont are found in great abundance. To use Chvoinoff's own expression, the island is formed of the bones of this extraordinary animal, mixed with the horns and heads of the buffalo, or something like it, and some horns of the rhinoceros; now and then, but very rarely, they find a thin bone, very straight, of considerable length, and formed like a screw.

'The second island is 20 versts distant from this; low, and without drift wood; 50 versts in length, and from 20 to 30 versts broad. Here also the tusks and other bones are found; and great numbers of the arctic foxes are to be met with on both. The surface is a bed of moss of considerable thickness, producing a few low plants and flowers, such as grow about the borders of the Icy Sea. This moss may be stripped off as you would take a carpet from a floor, and the earth underneath appears like clear ice, and never thaws: these spots are called Kaltusæ.

'The straights to the third island are 100 versts across. He travelled along the shore; and on the 21st May discovered a very considerable river, near which he found the kettle, palma, and some cut wood, in the same place and situation as they had been left by Lachoff's companions three years before Chvoinoff's arrival. This river he called Tzarevaia Reka, in consequence of having discovered it on the 21st of May. The shores were covered with drift wood, all of it extremely shattered. Ascending to the top of a very lofty mountain, he saw a mountainous land as far as his eye could trace in clear weather, extending east, west, and north. Continuing his route along the coast 100 versts, he observed three rivers, each of which brought down a great quantity of wood, and abounded in fish; and here the nerk, a species of salmon frequenting Ochotsk and Kamtshatka, was in abundance, though not found in the Kovima or Indigirka. On this land he passed the summer, and returned in the autumn to Swatoi Noss.

'I asked, whether he observed any regular ebb or flow of the tide? He said, that "he did not observe any remarkable alteration." Whether he recollected how the current set? "He believed to the west." Whether the water was salt? "Yes, and very bitter." He further observed, that there were whales and belluga, white bears, wolves, and rein-deer. No growing wood was to be seen, and the mountains were bare stone. None of these travellers took any notice of the depth of the water, nor were they acquainted with the nature of tides.'

It is remarkable that, since Chvoinoff, no traveller has visited this land.

Captain B. and Mr. S. reached Ochotsk on the 6th of September. Every thing was going on with alacrity: but, as the ships were not ready, they returned to Jakutsk; and, in this part of his narrative, the author dryly introduces a satirical remark on the officious zeal of the officers of government:

'I now observed, (says he,) that the officers of government at Yakutsk were suddenly become wealthy; that some, who with difficulty procured the common necessaries of life on our first arrival in this town two years ago, were now enabled to keep a carriage, with every thing suitable to that style of living; and, upon the strictest inquiry, I found, that these gentlemen were the volunteers who were so active in procuring horses for the use of the Expedition.'

Chapter x. of the present work contains an account of the manners, customs, religion, policy, and arts of the Yakuti. It is too long for our insertion, yet too much compressed for abridgment.

The party at Jakutsk again went to Ochotsk on the 21st of June. Towards the middle of July, the largest ship was launched, called by order of the Empress the *Slava Rossie* (Glory of Russia); and on the 8th, the smaller ship: but, in carrying her

her over the grounds, the boats casting off their tow lines, she struck, by the swell, on the beach, and was lost.

While the *Slava Rossie* was in the port of Ochotsk, news arrived from St. Petersburgh that a war had broken out between Russia and Sweden; and it is a remarkable fact, that such was the want of naval officers and men, that, in case the expedition had not left Ochotsk, it was ordered to return to St. Petersburgh. Captain Billings, however, set sail for Kamtshatka, where he arrived Sept. 27. At this place, the voyagers passed their winter very pleasantly; and again endeavouring to accomplish one of its objects, in March 1790, they steered for the North-west coast of America. On the 3d of June, the *Slava Rossie* anchored in a bay belonging to the island of Oonalashka (lat. 53°, 56′, long. 194°. 20′, variation of compass 19°, 35′ east), and Captain Billings took his astronomical tent on shore. The Oonalashkans, according to Mr. S.'s account, seem to be an ingenious people; and their baidars, or boats, he particularly praises, as superior to those of any other island. The following is a description of one, but it is not, in our opinion, clear and satisfactory:

'A keel eighteen feet long, four inches thick on the top, not three inches deep, and two inches, or somewhat less, at the bottom. Two upper frames, one on each side, about an inch and a half square, and sixteen feet long, join to a sharp flat board at the head, and are about sixteen inches shorter than the stern, joined by a thwart which keeps them about twelve inches asunder. Two similar frames near the bottom of the boat, six inches below the upper ones, about one inch square. Round sticks, thin, and about six inches distant from each other, are tied to these frames, and form the sides; for the top thwarts, very strong sticks, and nearly as thick as the upper frames, curved so as to raise the middle of the boat about two inches higher than the sides. There are thirteen of these thwarts or beams: seven feet from the stern is one of them; twenty inches nearer the head is another; a hoop about two inches high is fastened between them, for the rower to sit in. This is made strong, and grooved to fasten an open skin to, which they tie round their body, and it prevents any water getting into the boat, although it were sunk. This frame is covered with the skin of the sea lion, drawn and sewn over it like a case. The whole is so extremely light, even when sodden with water, that it may be carried with ease in one hand. The head of the boat is double the lower part, sharp, and the upper part flat, resembling the open mouth of a fish, but contrived thus to keep the head from sinking too deep in the water; and they tie a stick from one to the other to prevent its entangling with the sea weeds. They row with ease, in a sea moderately smooth, about ten miles in the hour, and they keep the sea in a fresh gale of wind. The paddles that they use are double, seven or eight feet long, and made equally neat with the other articles.'

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The Oonalashkans could not be induced to explain their religious rites: which, says the author, may be attributed 'to the extraordinary and superstitious zeal of our illiterate and more savage priest, who upon hearing that some of our gentlemen had seen a cave in their walks, where many carved masks were deposited, went and burnt them all.' In the following note, he justifies the use of these opprobrious epithets:

'I have called the priest more than savage, and shall relate a circumstance that happened in proof. While he was travelling from Yakutsk to Ochotsk, he lost some provision on the road. On a mere supposition that his two Tartar guides had taken it, he tied each of them up by an arm to a tree, and had them flogged to such a degree, that one of them died, and the other never recovered the use of his arm: it was afterwards known, that some runaway exiles hid in the woods were the thieves. The priest said, *there was no harm done; they were not Christians.*'

On the 13th of June, the expedition left the island of Oonalashka, passed the island of Sannaek; on the 27th, was in sight of the lofty mountains of Kadiak; and on the 29th entered the bay where Shelikoff has his establishment. The latitude of the harbour (Treeh Svatiteley) is 57°. 5′, its longitude 205°. 30′, variation of the compass 26° east. Mr. S. describes the island, its productions, inhabitants, &c.

On the 6th of July, Captain Billings set sail towards Prince William's Sound, and was in hopes of meeting with a Spanish frigate commanded by Captain Mendoza, which was at the entrance of Cook's river. Passing Point Banks, the voyagers fell in with a cluster of islands; which, according to the account of a young American, bore fine timber to the water's edge. When within 3 miles of one of these islands, no soundings could be found with a line of 100 fathoms. On the 19th, the *Slava Rossie* anchored in Prince William's Sound, near the place where Captain Cook was at anchor in 1778. Mr. S. made one or two excursions, and gained from the natives considerable information. From the relation of an old man, he is convinced that Cape Saint Elias is not the southern point of Montague island, but Kag's island; and

'Another observation of his, (says Mr. S.) I think it very necessary to mention: it was a positive assertion, that there were straits and islands as far as we could see; and that to the south-east there was "A GREAT SALT WATER," with many entrances to it. I repeatedly asked the question, and could not be mistaken in the answer; and I would most willingly have stayed on the coast alone, to explore these unknown parts from tribe to tribe, until I had lost myself, or found my way to Europe through some of these cranny passages. I am aware, that I was thought a madman for it; but this madness, this enthusiastic confidence, would, I am certain, have assisted my success;

success; nor would I have left unexplored a river of which we had such confirmed accounts, without good reason for it; for I never met with any men that would refuse assistance to one individual, who, without the means of being their enemy, was at all times in their power. Over and above all this, I declare, that I have complete confidence in a Supreme Being, who governs every thought, and inspires means of expression to secure the devotee in exploring his wisdom.

'I hope that my rhapsodies will not offend my readers: they are notes penned at the instant when my feelings were most acute, and with a view of making them known to the public on a future day.

'Captain Billings had received intelligence of this river from Mr. Delareff, the director of Shelikoff's companies at Kadiak, Afognak, and Cook's River; who gave the natives the character of good people; and said, that they ate, drank, and slept together in the most friendly manner; and I firmly believe what he said.'

On the 30th of July 1790, Captain B. and his companions quitted Prince William's Sound; purposing to return to Kamtshatka, on account of the small quantity of provisions in the ship, and in order to superintend the building of a smaller vessel. Mr. S. says that he was the only person who felt regret on returning to Kamtshatka. Desirous of exploring the country, he proposed to Captain Billings to be put on shore, and to meet the expedition, in the ensuing summer, at a certain part of the coast: but the proposal was rejected. The author conjectures that, although Mount Saint Elias may constitute part of the continent, yet Cape Elizabeth does not; nor, perhaps, Alaksa.

On the 14th of October, the *Slava Rossie* entered the harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul at Kamtshatka. This settlement is not destitute of its pleasures; and, according to Mr. S.'s account, the individuals of the expedition passed their time very agreeably in excursions, in dancing, and in card parties. The frost was at times very severe, and the harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul remained blocked up with ice until the 8th of May. On the 16th, the ship got out into the bay of Avatska, on the 27th passed Bering's Island, and on the 9th of June came to an anchor in a bay of the island of Tanaga *.

'The inhabitants dress exactly like those at Oonalashka; but the women have not so many ornaments. They speak different dialects of the same language as at the above-mentioned island: their dances and diversions, however, seem different. They are more graceful in their motion, extremely modest in all their actions; and quite unlike all other savages that I have seen, by being free from lasciviousness. Young men amuse themselves with jumping on

* P. 221. Here an instance occurs of Mr. S. not having reduced his *journal* into a narrative: 'In the fog *yesterday*, we must have passed this mountain very close indeed.'

the

the skin of a large sea-lion, held in the air by four or six men. They leap and *lighten* (alight) upon their feet, and by degrees are thrown up to an immense height: when they are tired, they leap off upon the ground. I attempted to leap in this manner, but could not succeed; for the sudden jerk either caused my knees to bend, or else threw me out of the centre; and they explained the cause by telling me, that I looked upon the skin, whereas I ought to keep my body erect, and look upwards; at the same time I should not leap, but let the men throw me up. Their boats are larger and more heavy than those of Oonalashka, though made upon the same principle.'

In the orders given to Captain Billings, it was recommended that such persons of the expedition as had been lately wounded, or had some internal disorder, or such as even long ago had been infected with the *lues venerea*, should be prevented from eating whale's flesh; because, according to the words of the instructions, "the wounds will open again, and the venereal disease will be renewed within three days, as may be seen in Captain Krenitzin's journal." The utility of this precaution seems warranted by the following passage:

'One species of whale is frequently cast on shore both on these islands and on the coast of Kamtshatka, which the natives never eat, but only use the fat to burn. They know no difference in its appearance; but observe that neither gulls, nor any bird of prey, or fox, will eat of it. They say, that the Russian hunters have used it for food; that its fat turns in the stomach to an oil of so subtile a nature, as to pass through all the pores of the body, while the fleshy parts are emitted in an undigested state; and that if those who have eaten it have formerly had wounds or ulcers, although these have been cured for years, they break out afresh. Several of the hunters told me, that they had eaten of this whale, and that the account which the natives gave of the subtileness of the fat, and the undigested state in which the more substantial parts passed through them, was true; and that some of their companions, who had been cured of the venereal distemper, became again violently affected with that dismal disease, merely from this food. The same property, however, is attributed to the flesh of whales in general.'

Leaving Tanaga, the voyagers reached Oonalashka on the 25th of June; and here Captain Billings declared his intention of sailing to the bay of St. Lawrence, and of not attempting to explore the country to the south of Cook's river. Mr. Sauer, we collect from many expressions, extremely disapproves the conduct of the Captain; and the subsequent passage not only reflects on him, but conveys this truth, that the great object of the expedition failed:

'Nothing in the world could have afforded me less satisfaction than this resolution, which I regarded as the conclusion of an expedition

pedition that was set on foot with unbounded liberality by the most magnanimous sovereign in the world; which had raised the expectation of all nations to the highest pitch, and induced mankind to anticipate the satisfaction of obtaining the most complete knowlege of the geography of this unknown part of the globe, together with a conviction of the existence or non-existence of a north-west passage. But, alas! after so many years of danger and fatigue; after putting the government to such an extraordinary expence; after having advanced so far in the attempt, even at the very time when we were in hourly expectation of our consort, and, as appeared to me, being just entering upon the grand part of the undertaking, thus to abandon it, was the most unaccountable and unjustifiable of actions.

'I despaired of seeing Captain Hall again, at least until our return to Kamtshatka, or perhaps St. Petersburg, unless we should be so fortunate as to join company before leaving this island, which might, perhaps, alter the present plan, and lead us to pursue the real object of the expedition.

'The remonstrances of Captain Saretsheff at the Kovima, on the Icy Sea, &c &c. and in fact the representations of every officer who had hitherto presumed to have an opinion, were always treated by the Commander with petulant and illiberal retorts. I have, indeed, had too frequent opportunities of observing, that rank and power intoxicate the possessor, unless they have been the reward of real merit, or the consequences of seniority in actual service; in which cases, the value of authority is known, as wealth gained by labour and not used as the accidental and unexpected inheritance of a prodigal.'

After having passed several islands, and touched at the coast of America, the *Slava Rossie* anchored on the 4th of August in the bay of St. Lawrence. Captain Billings now proceeded to accomplish one of the last objects of the expedition; viz. to survey the Tshutski coast. He was recommended in his instructions, indeed, to endeavour to enter the Icy Sea by Bering Straits: but this he did not attempt; why, we cannot say: but the author seems to blame him for the omission. The plan settled was, that Captain B. and eleven of the party should proceed through the country of the Tshutski to the Kovima, and thence to Kamtshatka; at which place Captain Saretsheff, (on whom the command of the ship devolved,) after having visited Oonalashka, was to meet him early in the spring. On the 13th of August, the baidars of the Tshutski took Captain Billings's baggage on shore, and the expedition separated. The distance between the two continents at the bay of St. Lawrence is, according to Mr. Sauer, 48 miles.

Captain Saretsheff sailed directly to Oonalashka; and a few days after he reached it, Captain Hall arrived in the smaller ship. Both vessels were hauled into the bay, and secured by mooring ropes from the violence of the winds; the officers

and

and most of the seamen slept on board, but Mr. S. and three others constructed a hut on shore. The individuals of the expedition lived cordially, and with as much comfort as could be expected in such an island. During their residence, inhabitants came from Kadiak and the neighbouring islands, to procure remedies against the *lues venerea*; with which, former adventurers, intent only on their own pleasures, had cursed the unfortunate islanders.

In the chapters in which the residence at Oonalashka is related, the author gives an account of the productions of the island, of the inhabitants, customs, religion, &c.—Their instructions and other accounts had warned the party against the scurvy and its dreadful ravages; and 'thinking,' says Mr. S. 'the best way to guard against it was, to copy the natives in their mode of living, I made the chief part of my diet consist of raw fish, muscles, and limpets; using, instead of tea in the morning, a tea-spoonful of essence of spruce in a small tea-kettle full of boiling water; and in the evening, we boiled beer with berries, sugar, and pepper, which, with the addition of some corn-brandy, was our substitute for punch.'

The scurvy, however, was not to be avoided; the greater part of the expedition were affected; and those, who were apparently the strongest, were most speedily and violently attacked. In March, the weather changing, and the damps and mists happening less frequently, the disease abated, and the Oonalashkans were able to procure abundance of fish for the use of the crew.

According to the author, the Oonalashkans are very ingenious, but suffer much from the cruelty of the Russian hunters; and on account of the remoteness of these Aleutan islands from the seat of government, this inhumanity is not likely to be checked, and will terminate only with the extirpation of the animals of the chace: an event which Mr. S. considers as by no means improbable. Shelikoff, whose station was at Kadiak, is likely to engross the whole of the trade in these parts.

'On the 16th of May,' says Mr. S. 'our vessels were hauled into the outer bay. We were now elated at the prospect of once more revisiting Kamtshatka, after the melancholy sensations that we had endured for eight months and sixteen days, passed in one continual state of anxiety upon this island, the grave of seventeen of our stoutest hands; where, during the whole of our stay, we had only been cheered eighteen times with the sight of the sun, and never experienced one clear day. On the 17th we sailed out of the Bay of Amoknak, and the same day saw the very remarkable solitary rock, resembling a pillar, situated about 30 miles north of the eastern point of Oomnak.'

On their arrival at St. Peter and St. Paul, they found an English vessel from Bengal with commodities, (ironmongery, cordage, rum, &c.) which, as Mr. S. observes, were at Kamtshatka invaluable; the English Captain, however, was obliged to return without disposing of his cargo, because the Governor was afraid to purchase on account of government, and the merchants, a set of roving pedlars, had neither capital nor credit. In July, Captains Hall and Saretsheff left Kamtshatka, for Ochotsk; and shortly after their departure, the author received a letter from Mr. Main, acquainting him that the party under Captain Billings, after having suffered innumerable hardships, and the dread of being murdered by the Tshutski, had reached the River Angarka *.

The following is an account of an earthquake which happened at Kamtshatka:

'On the 11th August, in the harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul, I observed a number of swallows flying about, apparently much frightened. They were red breasted, a species never remembered to have been seen here; and the inhabitants immediately predicted some remarkable event; they were, however, only seen during the morning. The next morning, about five o'clock, we were alarmed by a violent shock of an earthquake, preceded by a rumbling noise, little short of thunder. The motion of the earth was undulatory for nearly the space of a minute. I was dressing myself, and was thrown down, which induced me to get out of the house as quickly as possible. The water in the bay was agitated like a boiling cauldron. The shock came from the north-east, and appeared to me to continue upwards of two minutes; but other gentlemen were of opinion that it did not last more than one. A sailor, one of the watchmen on board the ship, was thrown out of his hammock. At Paratounca it was more violent; the earth opened in many places, and water and sand were thrown up to a considerable height; all the buildings in the village were more or less damaged; one balagan was thrown down; some of the ovens (the only brick-work about the buildings) were also shaken in; and all the paintings, &c. in the church, except Captain Clerke's escutcheon, were thrown from their fastenings.

'At Neizshni Kamtshatka the inhabitants were extremely terrified; nor could they explain whether the noise or the shock preceded. The situation of the town is on a neck of land formed by the discharge of the Raduga, a considerable river, into the Kamtshatka; the bed of the former was dry, and the inhabitants ran across it toward the mountains. They, as well as the cattle, were thrown down; and the continuance of the trembling was, according to their account, near an hour; the earth opened in many places, and sunk considerably in some. The volcano Klutshefskoi emitted a vast co-

* Mr. S. varies his spelling. This word is Ansarka in the map; and Tshuan in his page is Ishuan in the map.

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lumn of black smoke; a noise like thunder seemed to issue from the bowels of the earth; the bells of the two churches rang violently; and the howling of the dogs, and screams of the people, surpassed all description, for the latter expected every moment to see the complete destruction of the town. But when the shock was over, the lost water of the river resumed its former channel, and the inhabitants returned to their dwellings. Not a single brick chimney or oven was left standing. The altar of one of the churches was separated from it about a foot, inclining a contrary way; and the greater part of the balagans were thrown down.

'It is remarkable, that the inhabitants of the village at the foot of the burning mountain only heard the noise, and did not feel the shock; nor did it cross the mountains to the western shores of the peninsula.'

In the 21st chapter, the peninsula of Kamtshatka is described; and the account forms a valuable addition to our knowlege of that country derived from Captain King and other sources. On the 2d of August 1792, Mr. S., &c. took their departure from Kamtshatka in a galliot, and arrived at Ochotsk on the 19th. On the 1st of September, they departed for Yakutsk; which place Mr. S., leaving his baggage and companions behind in the woods, reached alone on the 2d of October.

Captain Billings was at Yakutsk, but he does not appear to have communicated to Mr. S. any account of what he saw and observed in the land of the Tshutski: Mr. Sauer, however, inserts all the intelligence which he could procure respecting this part of the expedition, and which he obtained from the journal of one of the party. We find in it nothing very remarkable. It may be useful for the speculators on the origin of Gothic Architecture, to know that the roofs of the huts of the Tshutski consist of whale's ribs and cheek bones arched.

The succeeding passage shews that the character of the Gipsy is the same in Siberia as in England:

'I was surprised at the appearance of detached families of Gipsies throughout the government of Tobolsk; and upon inquiry I learned, that several roving companies of these people had strolled into the city of Tobolsk. The Governor thought of establishing a colony of them; but they were too cunning for the simple Siberian peasant; which induced him to separate each family. He placed them on the footing of the peasants, and allotted a portion of land for cultivation, with a view of making them useful to society. They, however, reject houses even in this severe climate, and dwell in open tents or sheds; nor can they be brought to any regular course of industry; but they watch every traveller, and pretend to explain the mysteries of futurity, by palmistry or physiognomy. The peasant dreads their power, and from motives of fear contributes to their support, lest

they should spoil his cattle and horses. It is said, that they are very skilful farriers and cowleeches.'

On the 10th of March 1794, the author returned to St. Petersburgh, dreadfully afflicted with the rheumatism. Dr. Rogers and the British merchants behaved with great kindness to him; and, to use his own words, they 'prevented the miseries of penury from being added to his misfortunes.'

The appendix, besides the instructions to Captain Billings, already mentioned, contains a vocabulary of the Yukagir, Yakut, and Tungoose or Lamut languages; a vocabulary of the languages of Kamtshatka, the Aleutan islands, and of Kadiak; a list of the different stages from St. Petersburgh to Yakutsk; and an account of the full pay of the different ranks, with other dependencies, attendant on the Expedition.

Such are, in outline, the contents of a large book, which we have read without tedium, and even with alacrity; although, when we endeavour to sum up in our minds the knowlege which it has conveyed to us, the amount does not appear to be considerable. Plain narrative pleases, while it presents us with a continual change of scene: it requires no great attention or mental exertion; we glide along its pages, and are freed from the trouble of marching:—plain narrative is like plain food, which may be taken every day with undiminished appetite: while the consequences of the highly stimulant intellectual luxuries are debility and exhaustion; and they can be taken but rarely and sparingly.

That considerable advantage has been derived from this expedition, cannot be denied: but it is clear that all its objects were not accomplished. We dare not positively assert that they might have been attained, with a greater exertion of skill and intrepidity; yet Mr. Sauer evidently censures Captain Billings for desisting so soon in his attempt to penetrate the Icy Sea; for not endeavouring to pass Bering's Streights from the sea between Kamtshatka and America; and for not exploring the coast to the South of Cook's River. The author and Captain B., however, were not cordial; and, putting aside the present narrative, there is a considerable presumption in favour of Captain B. *; he was an English officer, and had attended the celebrated Cook in his last voyage.

In a geographical point of view, the benefits resulting from this expedition consist in ascertaining the position of several places on the Kovima, and in a more exact determination of the

* Dr. Robertson, in his History of America, vol. ii. note, p. 439. (octavo edition,) mentions the plan of Captain Billings's Expedition.

latitude

latitude and longitude of that chain of islands which stretches from Kamtshatka to the coast of America, and which are very inaccurately laid down in charts. For instance, in the general map of Russia, the latitude of Oonalashka * is put down 58, in the chart of Krenitzin and Levasheff 53° 30′: but, according to Mr. Sauer, it is 53° 56′, which agrees very nearly with the latitude 53° 55′ given in Cook's voyages.

The historian, the naturalist, and the observer of manners and human nature, will each find parts of this volume which are suited to his taste, and will be augmentations of his knowlege. The opinion of Dr. Robertson, that America was peopled from Asia, is in some measure strengthened: the Tschutski speak the same language with the inhabitants of the opposite shores; and the coasts, at their nearest point of approach, are not much more than 40 miles asunder; an interval easily passed in slight boats, or, occasionally, on the solid ice. In a commercial view, it might probably be advantageous to our government, to have that part of America explored, which Mr. Sauer was desirous of visiting.

It is certainly to be lamented that this gentleman, with his opportunities, did not possess more knowlege in natural history: yet even here he has done something. He seems to have been active, diligent, and observing; to have entertained just sentiments, and to have stated them with frankness; in fine, to use his own expressions, 'to have travelled with his eyes open, and to have related what he saw, in the simple language of truth.'

The work is illustrated by a number of maps, charts, views, portraits, &c.

R.W.

ART. II. *On the State of Europe before and after the French Revolution;* being an Answer to the Work intitled *De l'Etat de la France à la Fin de l'An VIII.* By Frederick Gentz, Counsellor at War to his Prussian Majesty, &c. &c. Translated from the German, by John Charles Herries, Esq. Second Edition. 8vo. pp. 400. 8s. Boards. Hatchard. 1803.

GREATER unanimity seems to prevail among politicians, in predicting the consequences which must result from the French revolution, than in assigning its remote and proximate causes: yet this circumstance should not excite any astonishment in the reader, because the decided preponderance which

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* This spelling is the same as in Cook's voyages: Mr. Coxe writes it Unalashka. We have observed, in the accounts and maps of parts visited by Mr. S., great variations in the spelling of proper names.

France has acquired by the war makes it easier to prophesy than to investigate; while passion and prejudice always act less powerfully on views of the future than on those of the past. As, however, the immediate storms and tempests attending that event have subsided, and peace has succeeded the tumultuous and bloody conflicts of war, there is reason for hoping that every thing relative to it will be discussed with more temper and self-command, and that its advocates and opponents will agree to meet on the ground of fair and open inquiry. M. Hauterive's work on *the State of the French Republic at the End of the Year VIII.*, which displayed much talent and address, and of which we gave some account in Vol. xxxvii. p. 184. N. S., has not been improperly regarded as an official publication of the French government; and, being calculated to subserve the views of France, and to excite a general prejudice against the only power which obstructs her inordinate aggrandizement, it merited the fullest examination. We deem it a fortunate circumstance for our country, therefore, that this examination has not only been undertaken by a foreigner, but has been managed with so much fairness and ability. M. Gentz has set an example which is highly meritorious in a controversialist. Generally speaking, he states his argument clearly and honestly; and, with the comprehensive intellect of a great statesman, he disdains that littleness, and is superior to that illiberality, which we have so often reprobated and lamented in writers on the French revolution. If his view of the subject be in any respects defective, the imperfection results from his not having entered with sufficient minuteness into the state of opinion in France; and from not having duly estimated the effect of the continual action and re-action which existed in that country, between what may be termed the aristocratical and the commercial systems: the one resting on feudal principles and claiming exclusive privileges, and the other expanded by science and the love of liberty.

As M. Hauterive considered the situation of Europe before and at the commencement of the revolution, as at least requiring this event for the benefit of the continental powers, M. Gentz follows his antagonist by first instituting an examination of the previous general state of Europe, in order to prove that, at the period in question, the law of nations was not so inefficient, nor the *federal institution** so neglected or forgotten, as he has

* For the benefit of the English reader, the translator defines the author's meaning in the use of this term; '*Federal constitution* properly signifies, and is commonly used to denote, such a league between independent

has asserted. The celebrated treaty of Westphalia is regarded by M. Gentz as having laid the foundation of the federal system; and his doctrine is, that neither the intervention of Russia nor the elevation of Prussia has tended to dissolve it. So far from there being reason for lamenting these circumstances as political evils, he is of opinion that the advantages are incalculable which have arisen to Europe from the civilization of the Russian empire; and as to Prussia, he not only displays the advantages of her elevation, but speaks of her as possessing *true civil liberty*. Adverting to the case of Poland, he remarks that 'its *partition* *, however unjust in its principle, was not in its consequences so detrimental as has been represented; it having rather tended to strengthen than to undermine the political system.' To justify his principles as a statesman, he appreciates, with much knowlege and discrimination, the relative strength, policy, and power of the different nations of Europe: but our limits will not permit us to follow him through this detail.

The prodigious increase of the commercial and colonial system, in all parts of the world, and its operation on the several states of Europe, is next considered. On this subject, it is observed:

'If it be true that the system of commerce and colonization was one of the fruits destined to grow and ripen in the soil of society, the roots of this system must be *somehow* connected with those of the whole social constitution. The natural propensities of man, particularly those of which the general and constant influence determines the fate of society, are seldom found in contradiction to each other That there should be any great spring of human action in its nature inimical to society; tending to involve nations in endless hostility; to subvert the law of nations, and even render its existence impossible;

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independent states, as form the Swiss and Dutch republics; it is here made to comprehend the whole system of political relations, and the usages which regulate the conduct of states in their transactions with foreign powers.'

* The author charges France with being accessory to this event. 'Had it not been for the French revolution, the constitution of 1791 would not have been destroyed, nor the political independence of Poland annihilated.' Indeed, it is accused of beholding 'the first partition, which paved the way for its subsequent annihilation, with perfect indifference.'

Whatever was the cause or may be the result of this event, it was certainly against the *principle* of the federative institution, for the maintenance of which M. Gentz is so very strenuous; and it is a proof that justice prevails but little in the ordinary sphere of state policy. The indifference of France does not justify this robbery.

and finally to bring about the decay and ruin of empires; would be extremely unnatural, and is therefore very much to be doubted. The system of commerce, with all its errors, could not produce such effects, and in fact never has: that in some instances it has been the cause of wars, is certain; but what has not been the cause of war? That it has sometimes created discord in the federal constitution of Europe, will not be denied; but can such a constitution be expected to exist without occasional disturbances? Upon the whole, the system of commerce, with all its consequences, the pre-eminent riches of some countries, their naval power, their foreign possessions, and their new influence (disproportioned to the extent of their European territory), had adapted itself exceedingly well to the former social relations of Europe; and if extraordinary and unexpected convulsions had not, from the year 1789, shaken the whole edifice to its foundations, and loosened every part of it, the question, Does there still exist a law of nations? would probably, at this time, have been absurd, notwithstanding all the changes occasioned or hastened by that system.'

Notwithstanding the remarks of this apologist for the commercial system, it must be owned that the incessant competition which it excites among nations has a tendency to instigate war, while the system itself increases their points of contact. We were surprized that M. Gentz should in one place assert that all countries were benefited by the commercial and colonial system, nearly in the same proportion; when he afterward represents 'the advantages of commerce and colonization as only conditional, depending on the industry, morals, legislation, and polity of the mother-country.' After much reasoning on the effects of commerce in general, he particularly applies it; observing that

'The nature and character of that system contained no essential cause of any *dreadful* revolution; and we are taught by experience, that, so far from having occasioned such an one, it has, on the contrary, added such power to some nations, as to form a beneficial counterpoise; whereby the federal constitution has more than once been defended against dangers that threatened its security.'

By the epithet *dreadful*, force is added to the remark without its truth being weakened. Commerce cannot be accused as an *essential* cause of any dreadful revolution: but, if that system leads to change, which it undoubtedly does, other causes may combine with it to produce a dreadful one under particular circumstances. No nation exhibits more indisputable evidences of the revolutionary nature of commerce than Great Britain, where the most material alterations are every day produced by it in the condition of individuals. How many persons, without family or fortune, have gone to the East or West Indies, and in the course of a few years have returned with

wealth sufficient to eclipse the old gentry of the district in which they passed their infancy, and to purchase estates on which their parents perhaps laboured in the capacity of menials! One of the children of the declining family, urged by necessity, may resolve on courting fortune in the same way; and, if he succeed, in the next generation he may re-purchase the domains which once belonged to his ancestors, or others of equal value. Thus property is continually changing hands; and though this be a source of great mortification to some, it is beneficial to the nation at large; because estates obtain a degree of melioration which they would not otherwise have received, and excite a spirit of improvement among the neighbouring occupiers. Such is the nature of the British constitution, and such are the rational and manly sentiments prevailing among the British people, that these fluctuations in the condition of individuals composing the political body lead to no *dreadful* revolution; they rather act as a salutary stimulus on individual exertion, and counteract that pride of birth which, however flattering to great families, must necessarily obstruct national advancement. France envied the prosperity of this country, and wished to imitate us: but the component parts of its society were formed of different materials. The class of gentry could not amalgamate with the commercial class. Ideas favourable to trade were not cherished. Riches grew from commerce: but, when they were acquired, the successful adventurer did not easily and naturally find his place among his fellow-citizens, and was opposed by feudal prejudices which he brooked with difficulty. As the genius of trade was not cherished by France, it did not improve the resources of that state in the same proportion in which it had augmented those of Great Britain; and the attempt to follow us in the career of liberty produced a collision which shook the civil edifice to pieces, and, under the name of revolution, effected the completest anarchy. It is evident, from our own experience, that the progress of knowlege and the changes effected by commerce do not essentially cause a dreadful revolution: but, under circumstances materially different, they may produce the most tremendous convulsions. We shall not here examine how far the war of the French revolution contributed to increase its horrors, but transcribe some of M. Gentz's observations on the causes and consequences of that subversion.

'I can assent, 1st, that there existed in the internal, social, and domestic state of most European countries, and particularly of the French monarchy, certain discordances, which might lead to great convulsions, and which, when those convulsions did take place, might in general be looked upon, with reason, as the preparatory causes of them;

them; and 2dly, the revolution has had the accidental good effect of discovering and pointing out, in the clearest and most impressive manner, to all governments, the imperfections existing in their former constitutions, or in the ancient federation of Europe.

'On the other hand, I am convinced, and I trust that all enlightened persons will now agree with me, that the condition of Europe in the latter times preceding the revolution, was not so desperate either in a social, a domestic, or a federative point of view, as to lead immediately to violent convulsions, or to render such convulsions desirable; that the French revolution, though facilitated, and in that sense prepared, by many social and political discordances, was by no means a necessary or unavoidable consequence of the state of France, much less of Europe; that this event, with all its dreadful consequences, was occasioned by some obvious errors of the former French government, was continued and completed by the untimely zeal, the ill-advised activity, the inability, the presumption, or the wickedness of those who, in consequence of these errors, were intrusted with the direction of the public affairs, and was converted into a principle of destruction for all Europe by the improvident measures of the surrounding nations; that, far from furthering the improvement of the condition of civil and political society, this revolution, on the contrary, has interrupted and arrested its progress at a moment when it appeared particularly promising; and that, when considered in a more extensive point of view, the greatest and most lamentable of the evils which accompanied it, was this: before the revolution there only needed a few wise reforms in the internal constitutions of states, and some happy combinations for ameliorating and confirming the federal system, to have raised Europe to a high degree of prosperity and happiness; whereas now all the means of attaining to this desired object must be sought for amidst a heap of ruins, and drawn forth, as it were, from chaos again.'

The progress of improvement, previously to the French revolution, is sketched with great ability by this German politician:

'It has been asserted, that all the favourable changes brought about in this period, were owing to the labours of public writers. But these writers were themselves, in fact, the creatures of the general improvement; I mean the great mass of them, those who had a wide and extensive influence on the minds of their cotemporaries; not those men of extraordinary genius, who sometimes burst, like splendid meteors, through the deep gloom of an age of barbarism. The productions of genius only become the daily occupation of mankind, and a powerful aid of social advancement, when the increase of wealth has promoted the progress of civilization; when the desire of more refined enjoyments has been awakened; and, above all, when governments of empires have acquired a certain liberality of principle, which they attain in proportion as they are enlightened and improved.

'Without inquiring, however, which was the first, or the last, in the chain of causes that produced these great changes, the event is clear

clear and undeniable. There arose in all the principal states without exception, and more or less in most of the smaller ones, a spirit of advancement and improvement, extending to every branch of the public administration, which the body of the people communicated to the governors, and which these again imparted to their subjects. The necessity of a revisal of the existing laws, and particularly of the criminal code, was every where felt. Measures were taken for encouraging industry, for promoting agriculture, for extending commerce: while high roads, canals, plantations, and public edifices of every kind, began to enrich and embellish all countries. In the place of the ancient system of taxation, often oppressive and unjust, much attention was every where bestowed to introduce one more simple and equitable, founded on a better knowlege of the true sources of wealth and the real springs of industry. The employments of civil society were every where freed from a number of burdensome constraints; and the beneficial principle of general competition supplanted the pernicious monopolies which were considered, in the infancy of society, as the only encouragements and rewards of industry. Exclusive privileges were diminished; inequalities reduced; and the advantages of individuals made subordinate to the good of the whole. The education of youth began every where to be attended to as a great national concern; to become an object of the care and protection of government; and, by the adoption of more effectual methods, the many speculations on this subject were rendered more subservient to the purposes of practical life.

'I am far from intending to assert, that this happy progress of society was any where as perfect and consistent as I have here described it. There were still many dark and uncouth parts in the great picture of the age, from which the observer turned away with sorrow or disgust. There still appeared frequent traces of barbarism in the manners, laws, and governments of the most polished nations. The abilities and characters of the men in power, were not always proportioned to the degree of maturity and refinement which their subjects had attained, or to which their hopes and endeavours were directed. The impediments likewise arising from particular circumstances and local relations, which opposed the execution of beneficial plans, must naturally have been more frequent and considerable in some countries than in others: but the general tendency of all nations and all governments was at this period directed to a progressive, persevering, and systematic improvement of the state of mankind, more than in any other either of ancient or modern history. The good actually accomplished, was not brought about, as in former, even the brightest and happiest periods of antiquity, by irregular, partial, insulated, and transient measures; but with order, consistency, and method; upon principles clearly understood; having a great and lasting object in view; and comprehending the interests of all mankind.

'The most important of the causes that prepared the dreadful storms which closed the eighteenth century, will be found in this tendency to a general and always progressive reform, which constituted the prominent and distinguishing feature of the social and political character of the age, especially in the last twenty years before the

the revolution. The elements of the desolating tempest were fostered, as in the natural world, in the same fertilizing atmosphere that gave a rich and wholesome nourishment, a rapid and luxuriant growth, to the noblest plants in the soil of society. The new opinions of the governed combined with the altered dispositions of the governors, to bring on this dreadful phenomenon. On the one hand, the consciousness of a higher degree of happiness and freedom, of increased strength, and of greater individual importance, produced a number of wishes, desires, and pretensions, hitherto unknown: with the increase of wealth arose discontent; with freedom, arrogance; with the progress of knowlege, the propensity to idle and extravagant speculations: a spirit of disorder, of uneasiness, and censoriousness, was the prevailing temper of all the leading states of Europe. On the other hand, those invested with power were not always sufficiently cautious and circumspect in the reforms and alterations they wished to make. They were too hasty in the execution of their plans; they strained the springs of power till they risked their breaking; they irritated the minds of their subjects by rash and violent measures; they increased the dangerous fermentation of the times, instead of using every endeavour to appease it; they often gave ear to rash, enthusiastic, and even suspicious counsellors, who, under the seductive pretext of the general good, and of immortal fame, led them by untimely, ill-combined, chimerical projects, into a labyrinth of errors and troubles, and brought them to the brink of ruin.'

There is much truth in these observations, and they merit the attention of those who wish to understand the important subject which the author of them discusses. M. Gentz is not of opinion that this country has prospered *by* the late war: but he thinks 'it a phenomenon sufficiently extraordinary, which can only be explained by the history of its government during the preceding ten years, that Great Britain should have been able to maintain itself entire and unshaken in the dreadful war excited by the French revolution.'

In his review of France itself, the central point of the revolution, M. Gentz remarks:

'That the former government of France was such as stood in need of the greatest reforms; that the errors in its legislation, its administration, and its domestic constitution, were many and great, cannot for a moment be disputed. Noboby will attempt to deny that the government of Louis the XVth laid the foundation of a dangerous disorganization. But was the reign of Lewis XVI. from its commencement to its tragical end, a proof of the assertion, that there no longer existed any proper principles of government in Europe? Was it not rather marked throughout by the desire of beneficial reforms, the prevailing character of the times? Was not its chief misfortune a misconception of its strength, which sank under the weight of its own undertakings? Was the monarch who placed Turgot and Malesherbes among the number of his ministers, who twice intrusted the fate of his kingdom to the hands of Necker, was he a patron of abuses

abuses, a blind follower of former systems? Was the *convocation of the* Notables, and the plan for which they were convened, the work of mean, contemptible, obscure, and common-place politics? Was the facility, or rather the levity with which this government consented to the assembling of the States, a proof of tenacious obstinacy, or of an imprudent spirit of concession? Was the edict of the 5th July 1788, which not only established the freedom of the press, but called upon every hand that could guide a pen to employ itself in publishing plans of general utility—was that edict the measure of a court that trembled at every prospect of innovation? Was the decree of the council of state of the 27th December 1788, and the speech of the minister of finance of the 5th May 1789, and even the unfortunate declaration of the 23d May—were these the productions of a government far behind the wishes and opinions of its enlightened subjects? Is the revolution, in short, to be attributed to the want of system and principles; or, on the contrary, to the multiplicity and abuse of them?"

These are fair questions: but, since real effects must have real and adequate causes, the specific march of events should have been noted; and it is not a little strange that the interference of France in the American war should not have been mentioned by this very intelligent author.

A clear account is given by M. Gentz of the political relations of France, Austria, Prussia, Russia, and England; for the last of which he is a strenuous advocate, in opposition to the suggestions of M. Hauterive:

'I have proved, (says he,) that, at the beginning of the revolution, England was precisely so placed as her own safety and the security of Europe required; that her political influence could not be dangerous to any nation, not even to France, her constant and only enemy; that neither desirous nor able to disturb the equilibrium of the general system, she was, on the contrary, the shield and bulwark of that system in all the most important transactions of the eighteenth century.'

So far from admitting it as an universal maxim, that "a nation has no right to interfere with the domestic affairs of any other," M. Gentz regards it as liable to some exceptions; and he considers the French Revolution as an event of that kind, which not merely permitted, but required the active interference of other nations. Hence he justifies the conduct of the surrounding states, and regards it as childish credulity to suppose that the continental powers were leagued against France merely to gratify England. He thus unfolds his sentiments on the origin and policy of the late war:

'The war was resorted to and commenced by France herself, that is, by the dreadful succession of outrageous and barbarous factions which enslaved, distracted, and tyrannized over her during ten years.

years. What rendered it inevitable, was the wide difference between those reigning factions and the rest of Europe, in their systems of administration, and in all their principles of internal and external policy; which created a discordance not to be remedied by any peaceful measures. The revolutionary chiefs, aware of all this, and feeling the precariousness of their own situations, recurred to the war as the only means of maintaining themselves, or as the last refuge of their despair; and they would have contrived to involve all Europe in this misfortune, even though every government had been anxious to avoid it, even had they coalesced to preserve peace. Unimpelled by any coalition, at a time when the very name did not yet exist, and not a vestige of it was perceptible, they challenged successively every nation, near or remote, continental or maritime, and at length made one general declaration of war against every ancient establishment. Thus Europe had no alternative but the dangers of the contest on the one hand, and the perhaps still greater danger, with which, on the other, those demagogues threatened the very elements of the social constitution.'

Instead, however, of the kind of belligerent union which was formed, it is to be lamented that there did not subsist a coalition against the *destroyers of France*, not against France herself. Had such a league as M. Gentz suggests been formed; a league prudent, just, and benevolent, in its principle disclaiming every idea of partition, dismemberment, and subjection, it is probable that the late conflict would have been less bloody, and have had a different termination: but wisdom is often too late in her visits to politicians.—The conduct of the coalesced powers is here strongly reprobated:

'Some evil genius seems to have perplexed the councils of every cabinet, and paralyzed their political and military energies; for it has been their fate to meet the most trying difficulties with pitiful projects, half-measures, weak and incapable instruments, and a deplorable deficiency of every thing [which] the magnitude of the occasion required. They too late, if ever, learned the character of their enemy, and how to combat revolutionary weapons and resources. There was no plan, coherence, or uniformity in their proceedings; no two of them were of one opinion. Their unfortunate dissensions, the fatal influence of their private interests, their want of unanimity and concert, the tardiness and indecision of their measures, redoubled the strength and courage of their enemy. Capable, at most, of a weak and partial defence, unequal to a vigorous and uniform attack, they formed no effective coalition, but were merely a reluctant assemblage of ill-according parts. They were, in short, unfortunately for the interests of Europe, any thing imaginable, except what the subtle declamations of the enemy, and the easy credulity of the age, have represented and believed.'

In treating of the present relations between France and the other states of Europe, the author considers her in a double point

point of view: first, as she stands situated with regard to her allies, and secondly with regard to her enemies. It is laid down as a sort of political axiom, that 'any nation is dangerous to the tranquillity of others, when it wants nothing to injure them but the will;' and the application will be sufficiently obvious from the following remarks:

'It is not enough to say that France has extended her limits on all sides by conquest; has added to the impregnability of her frontiers by new ramparts, and increased her influence over the neighbouring states in a formidable degree: the truth is, that France, in her present state, is contained by no limits; every thing round about her either is really, if not nominally, her territory and property, or may be made a part of her possessions, at the first convenient opportunity, by the nod of her sovereign. Spain, Italy, and Germany, without fortresses, without means of defence, without security political or military, are open to the attacks of France: and it now only depends upon the moderation and justice of the French government (mere personal guarantees, which every moment may alter or destroy), whether France shall rule alone in the whole west of Europe, whether any law shall be obeyed but hers.'

As a check to the enormous force of France, M. Gentz recommends a counterpoise formed by a combination of several powers; and, unless some measure of the kind be adopted, he predicts that Europe will suffer political anarchy and inextinguishable war.

The present allies of France, being dependent on her, and incapable of treating with her on free and equal terms, receive from this discriminating writer the appellation of her *clients*; and their case is dismissed with brevity. From these points, he proceeds to the relations between France and her enemies; in which the situation of Great Britain and her importance in the federal system of Europe occupy much of his attention. Here it is peculiarly gratifying to us to find those prejudices, which the French writers have not less artfully than strenuously laboured to propagate among the continental states, for the purpose of injuring our commercial prosperity, so warmly opposed and vigorously combated by a foreign politician; by an individual who cannot be suspected of having his judgment either warped by interest or weakened by partiality. M. Gentz's inquiry into the principal causes of complaint against what is called the commercial *tyranny* of the English intitles him to our thanks, as Englishmen; and we are persuaded that his view of the subject will impress conviction on every independent mind. He first examines *the Act of Navigation*, which M. Hauterive has been pleased to call "a permanent conspiracy against the industry of all nations." He maintains, on the contrary, that, so far from this act being

a conspiracy against others, it was a sacrifice to which England submitted, in order to establish her security and independence; and that, had 'such a law been passed in any other country, destitute of the natural advantages, character, and resources of England, it would have been a signal for the immediate annihilation of commerce; the suppression of all industry; the destruction of every incentive to enterprise and activity.' This law is not properly understood or is wilfully misrepresented by the French writers.

In the next place, it is denied by M. Gentz, that our commercial elevation results from the monopoly of colonial produce. He explains this superiority to arise from two principles unconnected with each other; the first existing *before* the Revolution in our peculiar character and circumstances, the second having its source in the *effects* of the Revolution on the commercial states of the continent.

'The incomparable activity of the English nation, the extent of its capital, its wonderful improvements in all kinds of machinery, the great expertness of its navigators, the labours of a government studious of its real interests, the excellence of its internal constitution, its political and individual character; all these constitute the first and principal basis of the ascendant of its foreign commerce.'

This testimony from a German politician is honourable to our national character. It assigns our prosperity to causes for which no ~~nation~~ country can reproach us; and if they were aided by the convulsions and confusion of the rest of Europe, that circumstance ought never to form a ground of accusation against us.

The cause of our manufactures is espoused with equal zeal; not, however, with respect to the advantages which we ourselves may derive from them, but considered in their beneficial effects on all nations. 'All Europe,' the author observes, 'is extremely interested in the existence of a people among whom industry and ingenuity have been carried to so wonderful an extent; by whom numerous objects of general consumption are provided comparatively cheap, and of excellent quality; and whose astonishing activity affords a striking, and not always fruitless example to other countries. The commercial greatness of England is, in all these important respects, a manifest advantage to Europe.'—He adds; 'To weaken England would be to weaken Europe, for the thirty millions of manufactures which she yearly adds to the commercial stock of Europe form a great and important portion of the wealth of nations.' *

This

* M. Gentz is not satisfied with asserting the wealth of this country, but maintains that the stability of its power is equal to that of

This able writer thus concludes:

'There is therefore nothing in England's commercial system, and in the influence of that system upon the welfare of other nations, which can support or justify the heavy charges brought against her. In her peaceful relations, we see her in constant and perfect harmony with the domestic interests in the social system of Europe. If she have in any way deserved the reproaches of her numerous adversaries, the causes must be sought for in other relations; they must be founded on her conduct in war, towards countries not immediately engaged in it; and on the abuse of her well-earned superiority in her oppression of the weak. How far they really are so, will be discussed in the following part of the work.'

We have received so much pleasure from that part of M. Gentz's plan which has been executed, that we look with impatience for the sequel here promised.

It is time for us now to express our obligations to Mr. Herries; who, in addition to the praise due to him as a translator, is intitled to thanks for an ingenious preface, in which the principles laid down in M. Hauterive's work are farther exposed. From an examination of the articles of the maritime code and the conduct of the maritime states, he deduces this conclusion; 'that, till the year 1800, France and England asserted the same principles in the practice of maritime warfare; and that if, in their conduct towards neutrals, there was any difference, the greater severity was on the side of France.'

Though Mr. Herries is happy to find that England has flourished *during* the war, he denies with M. Gentz that it has prospered *by* it; being persuaded that, great as we now are, we should have been much greater if that contest had never existed. If the war had terminated in more perfect security, we should contemplate our commercial prosperity with more satisfaction: but, without security, what are riches? There is a vulgar proverb * which would apply on the present occasion.

An abridgment of this work has been advertized, under the title of *A Vindication of Europe and of Great Britain*, price 2s. 6d.

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of her rival: 'The power, the riches, and the political influence of England, are as well founded and as real as those of France: England's greatness rests upon a basis as firm as that of her rival; their resources and their means may be different, but the result is the same in both.'—The succeeding paragraph, however, is not in perfect harmony with this position.

" * Don't halloo before you are out of the wood."

Moy.

ART. III. *Travels in the Crimea.* A History of the Embassy from Petersburg to Constantinople, in 1793; including their Journey through Krementschuck, Oczakow, Walachia, and Moldavia; with their Reception at the Court of Selim the Third. By a Secretary to the Russian Embassy. 8vo. pp. 400. 7s. 6d. Boards. Robinsons. 1802.

THE writer of this narrative has not chosen to sanction it with his name, nor has the translator affixed any preliminary remarks either on that point or any other. We do not mean, however, to insinuate that its authenticity appears to us questionable. A short preface by the author introduces the journal; and we are informed that the Russian embassy, of which the route is here described, 'composed of a train of nearly seven hundred persons, and which presented a spectacle of truly Asiatic luxury, consisted, strictly speaking, of a single caravan. A detachment of infantry and cavalry opened and closed their march; they advanced by very slow stages; every evening an encampment was formed according to all the rules of the military art; and every third day was devoted to relaxation and rest. It was not till the sixth month after they left Petersburg that they arrived at Constantinople, and their ceremonial entry was in an uncommon degree memorable and brilliant. All the curiosities of this ancient metropolis were exposed to the view of the ambassador and the principal persons of his suite, by the express orders of the grand-signior.'

The detail commences with the sketch of a hurried journey from Vienna to Jassy, by the way of Brunn, Olmutz, and Lemberg; from which we learn that, as the author traversed the flat and woody districts of Gallicia, he was importuned by swarms of dirty Jews, distinguished by their long black robes, large flapped hats, and their officious invitations to purchase their wares, or lodge in their houses. A scarcity of good water in Moldavia is partly supplied by abundance of melons, and the fruit of the strawberry-tree. The horses are not kept in stables, but allowed to graze in herds, and are caught when their service is required. Jassy is a very regular town, a league and a half in circumference, consisting mostly of low houses, with fore-courts occupied by buildings of wood. The streets are rudely *floored*, and display ranges of shops and stalls, which, when lighted up in the evening, produce an agreeable effect.

In proportion as we recede from the milder monarchies of Europe, the contrast of extreme wretchedness and splendour is impressed on our observation. Amid the pompous entry of an embassy from the Ottoman court, and the magnificent festivals and balls in the Ypsilanti palace, many mutilated soldiers,

abandoned

abandoned to the public compassion, were begging their bread in the streets of Jassy.

'The 16th of October, 1791,' says our author, 'was distinguished by the death of field-martial priuce Potemkin, and the stagnation produced by this event in all public affairs detained me four months longer in this city.

'This illustrious favourite of fortune would not, in all probability, so soon have terminated his brilliant career, if he had not set nature at defiance, and had listened to the judicious advice of his physicians. In the state of general debility in which he found himself, instead of remaining in a quiet situation, or using the prescriptions that had been ordered for him, he suddenly conceived the whim of getting into his travelling carriage, and being conveyed to the new town of Nicolaï, situated at twenty miles from Jassy. He had scarcely accomplished a third part of the journey, when, being seized with a faintness in his carriage, he was taken out of it, and expired a few hours after in the open fields. His corpse was conveyed on the same day to Jassy; and on the third day after its arrival, as soon as such pompous preparations could be finished, he was placed on a magnificent bed of state in a room hung with black, with a crown on his head, the mark of his dignity of *hetman* * of all the Cossacks, and in his hand a commandant's truncheon. Around the bed of state, which was placed under a canopy of scarlet broadcloth embroidered with gold and silver, were laid on cushions of brocade the respective insignia of all the orders with which he had been invested by his sovereign and other European princes. The coffin was surrounded by the principal officers of his army, and by pages dressed in black, and the chamber exposed to public view. The funeral, which took place on the following day, was performed with similar pomp and magnificence. More than ten thousand Russian soldiers, with inverted arms, and preceded by the united bands of all the corps, playing a march adapted to the occasion, followed the procession; to say nothing of Moldavian boyards, Greek priests headed by their bishop, Cossacks, Tartars, and Turks, who all joined in the procession. This remarkable ceremony closed with a discharge of artillery and musketry; and the trump of fame, which had recorded the actions of this important personage during his life, had still much to promulgate even after his death. His body was conveyed to Cherson, and interred in the principal church of that town.'

We have next to accompany our traveller and a German officer on a tardy, and not very interesting progress to the Crimea, or Tauridan peninsula.

Crossing the Dniester near Bender, they moved, during three days, along the desert plains of Oczakow; until the spacious, regular, and handsome streets of Cherson relieved them from the dreary solitude.

'* The dignity of *hetman* answers to that of general or chief of the Cossacks.'

'Over each of the town-gates appears the Russian eagle with his wings extended in sculpture, and having underneath different inscriptions, of which I shall content myself with giving the following specimen: *This is the road that leads to Byzantium.*

'All the environs of Cherson are extremely sandy, and absolutely barren, for a league in every direction; consequently, the inhabitants are obliged to procure all articles [for] food from Poland, and from the Ukraine; but in the [more interior] parts of the country the greatest fertility and most smiling abundance are conspicuous. On every side, nothing meets the eye but fields and gardens in the highest state of cultivation; delicious vineyards, and an infinite number of pretty country houses, in which the wealthy inhabitants of Cherson pass the summer months. However, the quantity of sand in the environs of this town, and the violence of the winds that prevail here in all seasons of the year, render the air extremely unwholesome, and frequently produce epidemical and dangerous maladies.'

The passage of the Dnieper on the ice was not effected without inconvenience and hazard; and the travellers, notwithstanding their furs, experienced intense cold as they advanced from Perecop to Sympheropol.

From the last mentioned place, the journalist, penetrated with the kind attentions of General Tchigulin, the governor, bent his steps in various directions over the Crimea; a peninsula gladdened by delightful prospects, the music of thousands of nightingales, and sweet and invigorating wines:—but the kind and hospitable Tartars submit with reluctance to the Russian yoke; and population, freedom, and industry, are wanting to complete the picture of national felicity.

'I was unwilling to have it said that I had neglected taking a near survey of the Tsherderdak, one of the highest mountains of the Crimea. I therefore set out one day, at about eight in the evening, that I might arrive early at the foot of this steep mountain, and avoid the heat of the sun, which began to be very ardent. My Russian guide, not being perfectly acquainted with the roads, contented himself with following the banks of the Salgir. Being extremely dissatisfied with his uncertainty as to the way we were to proceed in, and equally embarrassed how to direct him myself, I determined to go to the first large village near us. When we reached it, I went directly to the mursa, and requested him to furnish me with a guide better acquainted with the roads and the country. He readily complied with my request, and I reached Fabel, situated at the foot of the mountain, and at fifteen werstes from Sympheropol, by one o'clock in the morning. The chief of this village, which makes a part of the numerous domains of general Popow, received me with very great civility, in consequence of a letter of recommendation I presented to him from the governor; and when I had rested myself some hours at his house, I proceeded towards the mountain, in spite of all the remonstrances I received in regard to the danger of travelling

travelling on that road, together with assurances that many persons had experienced the truth of them at their cost. To secure myself from the attacks of robbers, with whom I was informed that all the woods and passages of the mountains were infested, I gratefully accepted of three men, whom the mursa had the goodness to provide for my escort. The first aspect of this enormous mountain is as striking as it is extraordinary: its form is exactly similar to that of a tent, on which account it is named in the Russian language *Palatka*, and in that of Tartary *Tsherderdak*: it is half as high again as all the other mountains of the Crimea, which are themselves very elevated: at the foot of it is a considerable extent of thick woods, which contain a multitude of wild boars. As you ascend the mountain, the road becomes more difficult and steep, with here and there, however, a spot flat enough to serve for a resting-place. We were three whole hours reaching the summit; but the enchanting prospect it afforded amply recompensed the fatigue of the journey. I had the pleasure of beholding underneath me the beautiful peninsula in all its extent, its mountains, its valleys, its woods, its towns, and its villages. I continued eight whole days in this place, without being able to exhaust the vast picture that on all sides excited my admiration and astonishment. Towards the north, I discerned distinctly the little town of Perecop; towards the west and the south, the Black Sea, which waters the coasts of the peninsula; towards the east, the Sea of Asoph, which however, on account of its distance, was not so easily distinguished.

'I had scarcely enjoyed this majestic and enchanting scenery half an hour, when the sky became covered with black clouds, which very soon descended half way down the mountain, substituting for the spectacle I had been enjoying, another, which, though less agreeable, afforded me however, on account of its novelty, very high pleasure. A most violent storm took place beneath my feet, and filled my soul with I know not what sentiment of joy and terror, which, in the state of astonishment and stupor into which this striking occurrence had thrown me, it was impossible to develop. The cold with which I was seized on the summit of the mountain obliged me to think very soon of departing. The clouds however had removed; and I had the pleasure of beholding the picture I had so ardently enjoyed by degrees re-animated, and presenting me, in the midst of different objects becoming insensibly visible to the eye, with attractions that drew all my attention. I discovered a great number of the grottoes, cavities, and abysses of the rocks. The snows, with which these last are filled, and which exist eternally, give birth to the Salgir, and sustain besides an infinity of smaller streams, which flow in an irregular course on every side. This great quantity of water, produced by the melting of the snow, as it escapes from the gulfs and profound excavations which it seems to have assisted in forming, encounters in its passage to the foot of the mountain different rocks, which convert it into a number of cascades, the noise of which is loud enough to be heard at a considerable distance. The water is extremely cold, and so *limpid*, that notwithstanding a depth of seventy fathoms, the *sound* of a piece of money being thrown in, and

reaching the bottom, would be distinctly *heard*. I discovered in different parts of the mountain many loud and distinct echoes, which return several reverberations.

'The day now verging to its decline, and feeling the necessity of a little repose after an excursion of ten hours, I began to think of returning to the mursa who had given me so hearty a welcome; and I had every reason to be satisfied with the excellent supper and bed he afforded me. At break of day on the following morning I took leave of him, to return to Sympheropol.'

Taking leave of this town, the author journeyed to Petersburg, through Leopold, Dubassar, and Moscow; without consigning to his notes much that can attract the attention of his readers. We therefore proceed to follow his movements, or rather those of a numerous embassy, from Elizabethgorod, the place of rendezvous, to Constantinople.

'We now composed a little army advancing gaily, and easily, and abundantly provided with every thing that could contribute to its accommodation and pleasure. Our purveyors always went before us; and, wherever the embassy stopped, we found the tables already spread and served with equal care and magnificence. The most distinguished persons in the suite were in handsome carriages followed by a long file of vehicles filled with servants and luggage. The march was closed by a detachment of well-disciplined Russian troops. All the roads were lined with spectators, who assembled from all sides to gratify their curiosity with the sight of so numerous a cavalcade.

'We had left Elizabethgorod on Sunday the $\frac{15}{26}$th of May, about nine in the evening, in the order I have just described; and arrived towards midnight at Gruska, which was our first station. As I was already acquainted with this country, having passed through it in my excursions to and from the Crimea, I experienced double pleasure in this opportunity of seeing it again. Invited by the beauty of the season, and accompanied by several of my colleagues, who were equally fond of travelling on foot, I seldom waited for the departure of the caravan to set out. I preceded it; and it more than once happened to me to have completed on foot the two stages which in general was the allotted distance for a day's journey. We always found ourselves amply compensated for the slight fatigue we underwent, by the enchanting points of view which presented themselves, and which we enjoyed at our ease. From this method we acquired also increased appetite, and were doubly sensible of the pleasures of repose, when the hour for abandoning ourselves to it arrived.'

At Dubassar, the Prussian and Turkish embassies met, and performed the exchange of ceremonials amid loud and reiterated demonstrations of joy. The author says; 'It was still our custom to travel between three and four leagues every day, and the third day we regularly devoted to repose. At sun-rising, the drum gave the signal for departure, and a few

few hours after we arrived at the place destined for our next station. A part of the retinue, as in former instances, was disposed of in the houses of the inhabitants, and the remainder under tents. Towards noon we all assembled to dinner in the great tent of the ambassador, and the rest of the day was devoted to the pleasures of society. We passed our time nearly in this manner during the whole journey.'—This route, estimated at 222 leagues, was directed by Kalarasch, Jassy, Burlat, Bucharest, Rasgrad, Adrianople, and Seliwrey.

Without dwelling on every observation and incident, it may suffice to remark that fine landscapes, cleanliness, and hospitality, accompanied the caravan through Moldavia; a province highly favoured by nature, but oppressed by its hospodars, and, at that time, only recovering from the ravages of war. The vast plains of Walachia are thinly peopled by a less generous and less accommodating race of men. On the present occasion, however, our humane secretary becomes in some measure their apologist. 'In all the places,' he says, 'through which we passed, we found ready prepared the magnificent breakfasts which had been ordered for us. These accommodations, and the obligation to lodge us in their houses, and to remove our baggage at their own cost, were extremely oppressive to those poor inhabitants, who had recently been so ill treated in the last war; and as all these charges were so many levies for which they received no recompence from the government, it would be unjust to feel too much displeasure against them on account of their disinclination to receive us.'

Of Bulgaria, it is observed, in general, that it is a very mountainous but highly cultivated country; affording to the happy peasant a sure and abundant harvest, as the reward of his labours.

Adrianople is the subject of several entertaining pages; and we would particularly recommend to our medical readers the sensible remarks on its hospitals.

The remaining portions of this work possess not much interest. Constantinople is discussed with a brevity very disproportioned to its size and consequence: but the author very justly observes that it is needless to repeat the details of his predecessors. The ceremonies of audience are thus described:

'A grand audience was given to the embassy by the grand-visir on the $\frac{29}{9}$ October, November, and on the $\frac{1}{12}$ November by the grand-signior, in each of which the most rigid punctilios were observed. The Turks are so strongly attached to every thing that relates to the ancient customs established among them, that they did not omit the most trivial circumstance. Some days before we made this ostentatious visit to the grand-visir, we sent him the usual presents. They consisted

sisted of different vases of gold and silver, of valuable furs, and watches richly ornamented with diamonds. All these presents had been exposed to the view of the public in the hotel of the ambassador, some days before they were sent. On the day of audience we assembled at his residence by eight o'clock in the morning, in full dress. We had not been there long, when the capigi pacha, who, as I have already said, had accompanied us in our journey, made his appearance. He was followed by one of the principal officers of the guard of the seraglio; who, as well as himself was decorated with a white turban, and came to annonnce to the ambassador that the grand-visir was ready to give him audience.

'We received these two deputies after the Turkish manner, offering them coffee and refreshments. Towards eleven o'clock, we placed ourselves in lines according to our rank, and proceeded on foot to Pera and Galata, in our way to the quay, where several handsome sloops waited for us; that for the ambassador being fitted up with blue silk.

'As soon as we entered Stamboul *, properly so called, we assembled at a place near to the quay, and, mounting the horses that had been prepared for us, advanced towards the palace of the grand-visir, where we were received with loud acclamations on the part of the Turks. The number of persons in the front courts and in the apartments was so considerable, that we had the greatest difficulty to force our way through them. Our ambassador had no sooner put his foot on the threshold of the door of the audience-chamber, than the grand-visir entered by an opposite door; and, after reciprocally saluting each other in profound silence, they advanced together to their respective places. After this the ambassador presented his credentials to the visir, who received them standing, and put them on the seat next him; then one of the secretaries to the embassy delivered to his mechtupschi, or secretary, the diploma of his excellency count Iwan Andreitsch Osterman. The mechtupschi gave it to the reis-effendi †, who placed it on a cushion behind the visir. This presentation of credentials over, the visir and the ambassador again seated themselves at the same moment, the visir on a sofa, and the ambassador in an elbow-chair directly opposite to him. The confidential secretary M. Chwastow seated himself on a stool a little behind the ambassador; the kiaja bey, or deputy of the grand-visir, was to the right of M. Kotusow, and the reis-effendi on his left, at some distance from the visir.

'After the compliments and congratulations customary among the Turks, the ambassador declared the motive of his embassy; and in a

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' * This city, built in 326, on the spot where stood the ancient Byzantium, by Constantine, from whom the word Constantinople was derived, is called Stamboul by the Turks. This name is a corruption of the Greek εις την πολιν, *to go towards the town.* The Turks have employed this expression for the name of the town itself.'

' † An officer of justice belonging to the court of the grand-signior. He is chancellor and first secretary of the Ottoman empire, and, besides, minister for foreign affairs.'

discourse

discourse equally eloquent and polite, explained with dignity the pleasure her imperial majesty experienced in assuring the visir through him of her fidelity in accomplishing her part of the treaty of peace that had just been concluded; adding, that she solicited of him to obtain of the grand sultan, his master, the earliest audience possible for the ambassador, who was commissioned to represent her in the court of his highness. The dragoman of the Porte, brother to the hospodar of Moldavia, translated this discourse to the visir, who, by the same interpreter, replied to our ambassador, that the grand sultan, his master, had commanded him to assure our gracious sovereign of his perfect friendship, and of the sincere desire he felt to maintain the happy intelligence re established between them. Immediately after this, commenced the ceremonies customary upon these occasions. Dried fruits, sherbet, and rose-water, were presented, as well as the calumet, which the ambassador offered to the officers of his suite, after first using it himself. They then distributed the presents, which consisted of the most beautiful pelisses. The ambassador put on his without quitting his chair; then, both rising up and saluting each other in the customary manner, the visir took leave of the ambassador, who returned to his hotel with his brilliant and numerous retinue in the same order which had been observed in going.

'The audience of the grand-signior, which took place some days after, was accompanied with the same ceremonies, excepting that we began our march towards the seraglio at an earlier hour. At four o'clock in the morning we assembled at the ambassador's, and at day-break advanced with equal order and magnificence, on the horses which had been equipped for the purpose, towards Stamboul. Arriving at the first gate of the seraglio, we found it guarded by a large number of troops and janissaries, dressed in their habits of ceremony, and placed in two ranks, in the middle of which we advanced. After waiting some moments,—which on such occasions is customary with the Turks, who think that by these means they give a high idea of their grandeur and dignity,—we went through two gates, and were introduced into a large court, planted with cypress-trees, at the extremity of which we perceived the palace of the grand-signior. Having entered a hall richly decorated, situated in the front part of the buildings composing this edifice, we found in it the grand-visir, with the capitan-pacha, seated on a form covered with green cloth, and employed in the distribution of justice. All foreign ambassadors are obliged to wait a considerable time in this hall, whilst these two officers dispatch different affairs, receive the complaints of the subjects, and settle their disputes. Their motive in this is, to give strangers a favourable idea of the Turkish government, and of the strictness with which justice is administered. We remarked, that they were assisted by two Turks dressed in rich habits, and who had numerous attendants; and that all complaints and petitions were first put into the hands of these two Turks, who afterwards delivered them to the grand-visir and to the capitan-pacha. The sitting had lasted some time, when, at length, the grand-visir dispatched the reis-effendi to the grand-signior with some words he wrote to his highness, demanding his permission to introduce the

ambassador. The reis-effendi returning some moments after to the hall with a favorable answer to the request that had been made, tables were immediately furnished; and, after treating the embassy in the Turkish manner, pelisses and cafetans * were presented to the most distinguished persons of the embassy. The ambassador partook of the refreshments *tête-à-tête* with the grand-visir, and put on his fur pelisse a little later than the other persons. When he had reached half way towards the sultan's apartments, he was presented with a stool decorated with gold cloth, on which he remained seated till the moment when the visir led him to the apartment of the grand-signior. At the door of the audience-chamber, in which was the sultan, were ranged in lines the principal bostangis, holding the presents of her imperial majesty. As soon as the ambassador had entered this room, the capigi-pacha took him by the arm, whilst the pelisses and cafetans were distributing to the other officers of his suite. After three times saluting the grand-signior, who was seated on his throne, he approached and addressed him with a discourse exactly of the same nature as that he had already pronounced to his first minister.

'Having given to the capitan-pacha the empress's letter, he presented it to the visir, who delivered it to the sultan, who placed it by his side, at the same time saluting the ambassador by an inclination of the head. When he had finished speaking, he pronounced some words aloud to the grand-visir, in replying to the harangue of the ambassador. The dragoman of the court having interpreted it to M. de Kotusow, the latter again bowed to the sultan, and retired in the same order and parade with which he had entered.'

In the course of the retrograde march of the embassy, the author takes a statistical and political survey of the provinces of Walachia and Moldavia; and, though he considers this part of the publication as digressive, we could wish for more of such *digressions*. In fact, they form the principal merit of the book; and their length alone prevents us from laying them before our readers, at the same time that their conciseness precludes a satisfactory abstract.—We cannot, however, withhold what is said of the Cotnar wine.

'All the vineyards situated between Cotnar and the Danube possess so remarkable a fertility, that one single *pogon* † of grapes frequently produces five hundred pints of wine. The most celebrated is that which is produced in the environs of Cotnar, a small town in the district of Harlew. This wine is not very much sought after, as it loses its strength, if care is not taken to put it into clean vessels, and to avoid moving it, without first drawing it off from its sediment. It

'* The cafetan is a robe of distinction in use among the Turks, and is the article generally used by the grand-signior as a present to the persons he wishes to distinguish; particularly to ambassadors and other persons who are presented to him.'

'† The pogon is a portion of land which contains twenty-four square fathoms. It is measured with cords marked with the seal of the hospodar.'

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is without contradiction the most excellent and generous wine in Europe, even surpassing in quality the best Tokay. When it has been kept only three years in a deep and arched cellar, it is as strong as the best brandy, and I defy the hardest drinker to take three glasses of it without being drunk; however, it is not heady. One remarkable quality of this wine is its being of a green colour, which becomes deeper and more lively in proportion to its age.'

Had this traveller, especially in the least frequented tracts of his peregrinations, gleaned a more abundant store of notices relative to natural productions, he would probably have contributed more to his own entertainment and that of his readers. Even a slight acquaintance with botany might have beguiled his weary way 'over a vast surface almost entirely choaked with different *weeds*;' and, as a mineralogist or zoologist, he might have roamed with pleasure over regions apparently doomed to hideous sterility. We should likewise require a narrative more copiously diversified and enlivened, did we not reflect that it is an easy matter to call for excellence while seated in an elbow-chair at a snug fire, when the traveller is often compelled, by the unavoidable rapidity of his motions, or by a series of hardships and discomforts, to forego the advantage of regular and accurate observation. The diary which we have just perused was not originally destined for the public eye, and disclaims all pretensions to a finished production. In more instances than one, we have not found the information which we expected: but we have been uniformly pleased with the writer's modest and unassuming manner. He neither sees nor performs miracles; nor steps into his carriage with a budget of anecdotes and *bons mots*, to distribute by the way; nor sports paradoxes; nor courts popularity at the expence of truth. The more circumstantial details of Professor Pallas * and Mrs. Guthrie * may supersede the few pages which he has allotted to his description of the Crimea: but enough will remain to please those who are willing to be pleased.

The passages adduced above are not unfavourable specimens of the translator's style. He is always perspicuous, and, we presume, faithful: but he sometimes deviates from the English idiom, and seldom attains to elegance. A moment's inspection of Chambaud's Dictionary would have furnished him with the terms corresponding to *arbouse*, *arbousier*, and *elan:* but we know not what Dictionary has sanctioned such words as *inconvenienced*, *domiciliated*, and *to serpentine*. A moderate use of a form of construction, corresponding to the ablative absolute

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* In two recent publications, of which we hope shortly to give accounts.

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of the Latins, French, and Italians, may be tolerated, for the sake of variety: but we should rather renounce the latter consideration, than have recourse to such phrases as *descended from the mountain, every one*, &c. and *this presentation of credentials over*, &c. Yet, in spite of these blemishes, this translation is correctness itself, compared with many which we are doomed to encounter.

Mur.

ART. IV. *Memoirs of a Family in Swisserland;* founded on Facts. 4 Vols. 12mo. 14s. Boards. Longman and Rees. 1802.

IN order to form a legitimate novel, we apprehend that the fable must display in its structure the combined efforts of genius and art; that the characters must be selected by sound judgment, and sketched to the life even in traits the most minute and shades the least perceptible; that the whole must breathe the spirit and portray the manners of the period in which the scene is laid; and that it must leave on the mind, after perusal, strong impressions of desire for some excellence, or of aversion from some vice. If the work before us cannot claim a place in this class, it is not to be confounded with the mass of feigned tales which deluge the press: since it is the production of a better pen, directed by a mind imbued with liberal sentiments, and not destitute of culture and taste. If we are not to examine the strokes of the pencil minutely, nor view the colouring too closely, we must admit that the figures are within nature, that the outlines are striking, that the features are well marked, and that the air is characteristic. The portraits of Angelica, an accomplished young English woman, and of Madame de Valmont, a French widow, give the author an opportunity of tracing the differences of national character; in which, we think, he has happily succeeded. We should gladly have recognized some Swiss feature in Gertrude: but her perfections are so absolute, that they admit not of nationality. Though the account of Arminfeld employs much general description which might have been spared, still the picture presents all the lines of the character which it was intended to delineate; and he is a fair example of the endless inconveniences and extreme danger, to which unsubdued passions, though combined with the first talents and the best dispositions, expose a human being.—The other persons, who figure in this work, call too forcibly to recollection certain matters which the public will think had better have been forgotten, and to which, therefore, we wish that the author's delicacy had prevented him from alluding.

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The tendency of these volumes is intitled to great praise; the page every where inculcates the best principles of religion and morality, with the most approved maxims of conduct: while it exposes the scenes of modern fashionable dissipation, and aims successful shafts of satire and of ridicule at the reigning vices and follies of the age. The observations, also, which occur on the defects in the English national character, manifest a judgment that knows how to appreciate and discriminate. In making these remarks, perhaps, we shall frighten the sentimental and the gay from a perusal of the work: but let us not occasion a mistake that would deprive them of the ample gratification which these volumes will afford. They will have sighing and sobbing in abundance; and they will find that none of those ingredients are omitted, which they relish in their accustomed dishes. Here are damsels beautiful as fairies and pure as angels, with swains endowed with every excellence and graced with every accomplishment, bowing to the empire of the fair; all the pranks of love, jealousy, and despair, are exhibited; the wanton little god snatches his victims from the jaws of death, suicide, and insanity, and all at length terminates in the most happy marriages.

In thus speaking our sentiments of praise, however, we must not conceal that the style of this work is by no means free from objection; and again we have to wish that the authors of such tales, if they will not take the trouble of carefully finishing and polishing their compositions, would at least attain grammatical perspicuity and correctness.

We copy the writer's account of fashionable life in this great metropolis, as drawn with much truth and vivacity:

'Late hours at night preclude the possibility of early rising. To be late is to be fashionable. To go to bed late, to rise late, to breakfast late, to dine late, and to visit late, is to be "*quite the thing*," or in good English, which you may understand better than the first phrase, to be in the fashion.

'Our mornings are wasted in necessary repose, to recruit us after nightly fatigues. Our forenoons are devoted to numberless visits, paid reciprocally by dropping our names at each other's doors, a round of shopping to order one's own dress, or that of a young female friend, who courts your acquaintance for the convenience of your carriage; and compliments your taste, in the choice of her evening's dress, in expectation of being introduced into public by a person of rank; from whose consequence she hopes to derive *a great deal.*

'Our late dinners seem like the supper of a rational and well-regulated family, at whose hour of rest we sally forth to dissipated circles, assembled at an unmeaning rout, where we behold a crowd of characters in mental as well as personal masquerade.

'As

'As you are not an English-woman, you may wish to have an explanation of the word *rout* in its *figurative* sense, if I may be allowed the expression.

'The real signification of *rout* you know is *hurry, bustle, noise, tumult, uproar*, or *a search after something*; also, a *mob, riot*, or *public disturbance*. These explications of the term may with strict propriety be equally applied as a true description of this modern entertainment, peculiar to our nation.

'The invitation to it is made without trouble. On a visiting ticket, under the superscription of the lady's name, she desires her waiting-woman, or if she cannot write, commands her to order the valet or the footman to write down these few words, "*At home on Monday evening the 25th of April,*" or any other day-she may happen to be disengaged; which she sees from her long list of invitations for a month to come.

'Simple and careless enough this manner of asking.—

'You must know that all polite forms are *quite out*; that is to say, they are aukward, discover extreme ignorance of high life, and are unfashionable.

'The modern modes are freed from all the vulgar shackles of ceremony and what was once termed propriety.—Its present acceptation is totally different from what it was originally. We English must have a new dictionary, amongst other novel improvements, in which a number of words must be transposed to give their present meaning, and some terms must be entirely expunged, as useless, since the things and ideas, of which their respective terms stood as figures, are quite laid aside.

'But I must return from this digression to my *rout*.

'It is an assemblage of people of almost every description, and nearly all classes, huddled together promiscuously, without order; which is another thing absolutely out of date.—Near a cold door, which stands open all the evening for the ingress and egress of the numerous visitors, and the admission of the keen wintry wind, there stands a Countess. Next to her ladyship stands the proud lady of a city knight; who was once a grocer, and it is said he married a waiting-woman—but that's no matter: people in this kingdom neither regard profession nor ancestry. Sir John Plumb is wealthy; that entitles him to come into the *best company*—and his lady's jewels make a splendid figure in it. My lady is indeed very brilliant to-night. Next to her a respectable matron and two beautiful daughters stand quite unheeded by the company. They were asked by the lady of the house because she could not well avoid it; but she does not pay any attention to her old friend or the charming girls her daughters. They are handsome, it must be confessed; but too modestly diffident to make any effect in public: their dress is becoming enough to be sure; but it was not made at the most fashionable milliner's: in fact they could not afford it without running up a long bill, which like many others must have remained unpaid; they have lost their father, who was in the road to fortune, and was the benefactor of the master of the house; where they now are received as a prodigious favour, although they are in all points (fortune excepted)

cepted) superior to its owners. In fine, the genteel matron and her lovely daughters have been in better circumstances—they are not rich—who will wonder they stand unnoticed! Next to those charming girls, there sits a young female, round whom all the men flock. —Yes—she has a fortune of fifty thousand pounds. Her father made treble that sum during the last war. He was a Scotchman, without a sixpence; but was fortunate enough to be related to the then minister in the hundredth degree of consanguinity, and therefore had the good luck to be appointed commissary to the troops.

'Here stands a woman of family, dressed very plain. There a woman of no family, dressed very expensively.—But who is that giving herself innumerable airs?—Nobody—I mean she is only the wife of an apothecary, whom every one employs in his own proper capacity, and as surgeon and physician also, because he is the fashion. —He must be a man of uncommon abilities?—That does not follow as a natural consequence in this country, although it will be a just conclusion to draw every where but in England.

'Here are a number of ladies indeed! But there are very few *gentlemen* to be seen—Pray where are they?—God knows.—

'There is one who seems to be a man of great consequence by his deportment: and he is in close conference with the Countess; of whom he appears to be a favoured admirer.—He is a nobleman certainly. Perhaps he may become one—at present he is only a banker. —There is a person however whom one cannot possibly mistake: he must be some very common personage from his appearance, as he wears a coachman's wig unpowdered—That is a man of quality! It is the Duke of . . . We must whisper his grace's title out of respect for a noble peer of the realm.

'All this is strange!

'Nothing can be so in London.

'In every corner of the room we behold a profusion of glossy ringlets falling in studied carelessness over grey hairs and wrinkled fronts.—The diamond's blaze attracting admiration where the beamless eye could never catch a single glance from the fortune-hunter; whose hacknied adulation pays incense to the shrine of wealth with mercenary and fulsome compliments. All around we see the glare of rouge on pallid cheeks, emulating in vain the glow of health and bloom of youthful modesty, on faces which have long since ceased to blush either with youth or bashfulness.

'Such are our modern belles!

'Our beaux, if such they can be called, even more unnatural and disguised, affect a thousand fopperies both in dress and manners, equally assumed for the occasion of public display.

'And now pray who is that running about the room so busily like a bar-maid, or the hostess of an inn? She is the mistress of the house—she can't say more than a few hurried words to each of her guests. This, however, is not distressing to either of the parties; for it is a thousand to one if they could muster three rational sentences to say to each other. One half of the company are almost strangers to her; for the other half she cares not a farthing, nor do they care more for their entertainer. I am wrong however in bestow-

ing this epithet on the lady of the house, to whom it cannot apply in *any* sense. She has opened her apartments to receive company; but it is entertained at the footman's expence, or rather its own expence; for the visitor's card-money goes to defray the cost of the cards, and perhaps the wax-lights and cakes, *et cetera*, come from the same fund through the medium of the mistress's purse, or, more commonly, out of the attendant's pocket; into which he amasses, when the company have retired, the rich gleanings of each card-table: where the cards are doubly and trebly paid by every set of players who have *cut-in* throughout the evening.'—

'In such assemblies as I have just described, cards usurp the place of conversation; from which all rationality is banished. Here a crowd, who cannot get even the accommodatiou of a temporary seat, squeeze past each other in dull rotation from room to room; and, having completed the scrutinizing stare over each other's dress and person, repair to a succession of similar scenes till some favourite air at the end of the opera or the ballet calls them to the theatre, where the buz and bustle of the coffee-room concludes the pleasures and amusements of the night.'

The subject is pursued to a length to which we cannot follow it, and the reign of Fashion is well described. The accomplished Swiss fair thus comments on her friend's pictures of London follies:

'In your picture of the English, I cannot recognize a people universally famed for solidity and depth of understanding. I have ever considered the Britons as the profoundest reasoners, the most elegant and judicious authors, the ablest statesmen, and the bravest warriors in the world. From what strange inconsistency in human nature can it proceed, that a nation so wise in the aggregate, should be so ridiculous individually?

'Every person in society ought to consider that they form a part of a community, and that they become responsible to that community for each action, however apparently indifferent, which, nevertheless, must tend to influence as well as to characterize national manners.

'From your description of the absurdities of the metropolis, I perceive the necessity of superior and leading characters, who will boldly dare to stem the torrent of fashion, when it threatens to overwhelm and destroy good sense and propriety. Sound judgment and inviolate truth should be the standard of actions and opinions.

'Fine examples amongst a people as imitative as the English, would have infinite power to annihilate the present prevailing follies. —And it should be the object of those in eminent situations, and public stations, to set a pattern of the strictest propriety and virtue for the imitation of their fellow citizens and countrymen.'

The character of a British naval officer, introduced in this work, has in some points an evident resemblance to that of the *Hero of the Nile*, and in others an equally obvious dissimilitude. Which did the author design to predominate?

Jo. ART.

ART. V. *A Tour through several of the Midland and Western Departments of France*, in the Months of June, July, August, and September 1802. With Remarks on the Manners, Customs, and Agriculture of the Country. By the Rev. W. Hughes. Illustrated by Engravings. 8vo. pp. 238. 6s. Boards. Ostell. 1803.

A CONSIDERABLE degree of monotony has prevailed in the recent accounts of France, from their having been, for the most part, confined to descriptions of the capital: but the present tourist varies the scene of observation, by taking us into the Departments, and tracing the effects of the revolution on the inhabitants of the country. His circuit, indeed, is not very extensive; nor was much time occupied in noticing foreign customs, manners, and practices of agriculture; yet Mr. Hughes appears to have made a good use of every opportunity for observation; and the reader will be induced, by the specimen before us, to wish that he had taken a wider range, and that his remarks had extended to more of the provinces of France. Should any of Mr. Hughes's sketches be not altogether accurate, we are persuaded that it has been his endeavour to make them so: for he seems not to wish to represent that country either worse or better than he found it. He disguises not his feelings and sentiments, but openly expresses his pains and his pleasures, his admiration and disgust, his opinions respecting politics and opinions respecting religion.

If we were induced, on perusing the title of this book, to regard the writer as a clergyman of our established church, we were soon undeceived: the complexion of his creed proves him to be a dissenter; and the style of his remarks evinces that he is a perfect mannerist: but the general tenor of his observations will leave an impression in favour of his integrity, candour, and humanity. The work bears every mark of having been composed in great haste, displaying many negligencies and inaccuracies; though we cannot be severe on this head, because the author modestly speaks of it as 'neither more nor less than a series of memorandums and reflections penned sometimes on the road and sometimes at the inns upon it.' By being *penned on the road*, he cannot mean as he was proceeding in the French vehicles; since, from his account of them and of their rough motion, it must have been utterly impossible to have used either pen or pencil while stationed in them.

An apology is made by Mr. H. for not having transcribed his journal, in order to render it more correct in point of style, by informing us that he had no idea of appearing before the public in *propriâ personâ*; that his highest ambition was merely to gratify the curiosity of his friends, by inserting his adventures and re-

marks in the pages of a monthly publication; that it was the recommendation of the editors which induced him to bring them forwards in their present form; and that, though he has yielded to their advice, it has not made him vain, for he contemplates his book as an ephemeral production, which has received as much finishing as it merits. 'The creature of a day will live but a day, trick it out as gaily as you will—wishing only to inform and amuse an affectionate and much loved circle, facts alone will be demanded of him. If those facts, unartificially detailed, interest their feelings, and with pleasure fill up an idle hour, he is acquitted—if others read them with approbation, he is more than paid.'

On June 15, 1802, Mr. Hughes went on board the Lark packet, bound from Brighton to Dieppe; and, being a young sailor, he recounts the particulars of the voyage. In due time he is landed on the French coast, when a contrast is drawn between the aspect of *comfort* displayed in an English port and that of *misery* which is so prominent in a French one. After having surveyed *Dieppe*, the *tout ensemble* of which is said to be wretchedness in the extreme, Mr. H. proceeded to *Rouen*, *Lisieux*, *Caen*, *Falaise*, *Argentan*, *Sées*, *Alençon*, *Beaumont*, *Mans*, *Sablê*, *Laval*, *La Flêche*, *Angers*, *Tours*, *Blois*, *Orleans*, *Estampes*, *Paris*, and returned from the last mentioned city *viâ* Calais to England. Thus it appears that he visited ten departments westward of that in which Paris is situated; and whatever occurred, blame-worthy or praise-worthy, it found a place in his journal.—So greatly disgusted is he by the want of cleanliness generally observable in the country which he explored, that he conceives *filth* to be 'the Frenchman's proper element.' * In his account of Rouen, he takes notice of 'the fluid pestilence which flows adown the middle of the streets;' and he is not less sparing of his remarks on the dirtyness of Paris in this respect. The French, we hope, will profit by such admonitions: but to our countrymen, lessons on neatnesss and decorum are not necessary.

Mr. Hughes is no friend to manufactures. At Rouen, he intimates his disapprobation of their effects: but at Lisieux, he thus boldly declares it:

'At Liseux, (Lisieux) the country begins to assume an aspect hitherto rare in France. The fields are enclosed; the farms are well wooded, and the pasture prevails over the arable; but the town itself is the very counterpart of Rouen. Like it, it is ill-disposed, ill-built, and stinks most abominably. There are here many considerable *fabri-*

* 'The scrubbing brush is a luxury, (he says,) which has not yet found its way into France; nor the sweet music of mops and buckets.'

quants

quants of cotton as they are called, and the people bear on their front that character of vice and filth which seems to be universally stamped upon all great assemblages of manufacturers. Is it that the occasional introduction of depraved wanderers among them inevitably corrupts the whole mass; or is it that daily receiving more wages than are adequate to a simple decent maintenance—abundance leads to luxury, and luxury to vice? In this case, which I believe to be the real root of the evil, may it not be questioned how far great manufactories ought to be encouraged by any legislature? And if they are to be encouraged, may we not insist upon it that the legislature, which does not encourage also every means of correcting the contamination of the public morals which it virtually countenances, prefers but a feeble claim to the affections of the public?—Here the question arises: what are the antidotes by which the poison is to be corrected? We answer, complete religious liberty. Legislators have enacted pains and penalties for this and the other irregularity and vice; and what has been the effect? Nothing.—Absolutely nothing. Well then—if the secular Aaron cannot preserve the morals of the people from contamination, let them try what religion will do; for in vain do they attempt to make good citizens without it —Let them give equal countenance to as many as are disposed to enter the abodes of squalid wretchedness to attack vice, even in its seat of empire—to warn the thoughtless, to confirm the wavering, to reclaim the wanderer, to edify the virtuous; in a word, to plant the seeds of moral purity in the heart, and cherish them by the sanctions of the New Testament.—I say *equal* countenance, for every man has an equal right to form his creed for himself, and consequently an equal right to the protection of the law. If my principles make me a good citizen, the secular arm has nothing to do with me but to animate and encourage me in the prosecution of them.'

In his description of the beautiful *Sarthe*, (Mr. H. spells it Sarte,) the same sentiment appears:

'The Sarte is perhaps one of the finest rivers of equal magnitude in the universe.—Its waters are limpid as the dew-drop, and as transparent as crystal. On either side it is bordered with a strip of the richest meadow, clad in almost everlasting green. On its northern shore, at the distance of perhaps one hundred yards, the marble rock pushes its dark-featured and almost perpendicular cliffs to a very considerable elevation; the bluff points of which sometimes boldly pierce through the thick foliaged copse with which its slopes are clad, and sometimes hide themselves amid the vines which climb up its rugged sides, and swing in the winds with the most wanton luxuriance. Its waves are tenanted by millions of the finny-tribes in all their customary varieties, and on its bosom the frequent barge spreads abroad its tumid sails, and courts the favouring breeze. There are few situations in France, the scenery of which is so completely enchanting as the shore of this placid stream.—It is not in the power of words to paint the soft, the tranquillizing effect of an evening's saunter upon its rich luxuriant banks; every thing seems to unitein harmony; the busy bustle of the world comes not here to

mingle its discord with our pensive meditations; the din of manufactories jars not on the ear, nor do their attendant vices and their inevitable consequences, squalid wretchedness, obscenity, and filth, disgust our senses—the music of the countless nightingales which tenant the declivities of the rocks, is alone interrupted by the clacking of the distant mill, the barking of the watch-dog, the trill of the snake, and the pastoral songs of the young light-hearted guileless peasantry. To become weary of scenes like these, requires a corrupt and distorted taste. There were few evenings on which we did not regale ourselves with a pensive *promenade* beneath the cliff, along the mazy winding shore—nor ever quitted them but with the wish to return.'—' As we float down the smooth unruffled bosom of the stream, the scenery becomes even more enchanting—its banks are more precipitous—the woods more luxuriant—the villages which people its shores more frequent.—At La Roche Talbot, three miles from Sablê, an estate, previous to the revolution, belonging to an English gentleman of that name, the prospect assumes such sublimity of feature, such rich luxuriance, that it is impossible to gaze on it but with rapture and extacy—I have seen nothing even in England superior to it.'

We must not omit the author's account of the climate of the western department:

' The climate of this part of France is serene as the summer's evening. The ethereal canopy is clad in almost perpetual blue; and, through the wide expanse, a cloud is scarcely, for successive weeks, to be descried; the tempests of wind and rain which keep our sky in perpetual bustle, and are for ever working up fogs and thick darkness from the surrounding ocean, are there but fleeting visitants which sweep now and then across the welkin, to temper the intensity of the summer's heat, and give moisture to the drooping herbage; for a few hours the thunder roars with tremendous explosion; the clouds discharge their contents in torrents of rain; and, in a few hours more, every thing is calm and serene again. The concave puts on its accustomed livery, and all nature smiles, refreshed by the change!'

No comfortable accommodation was experienced by Mr. Hughes till he arrived at Laval, of which he speaks in terms of approbation:

' At Laval, the effects of commerce are peculiarly striking: totally unlike most of the other towns through which we pass, elegance and comfort are here conspicuous; the high lands above the river are beautifully ornamented by the country houses of the merchants and manufacturers; and, the interior fully answers to the front. An Englishman is here frequently reminded of his dear native isle, and may almost think himself at home. The apartments are fitted up in the English style, and not unfrequently with English furniture; and, to crown the whole, hospitality—that *genuine hospitality* which *once* was English, amply spreads the board, and gives zest to the entertainment.

' Taxation

'Taxation has not *here* engulphed the energies of man, nor frozen the genial current of his heart; half a dozen friends superinduced upon a family for as many weeks in England is a very serious concern; at Laval it is nothing—hence the tables of its inhabitants are loaded with continual luxury, and ease and gaiety smile upon every brow.'

The road from Sablê to La Flêche, in extent about 18 miles, is said to be excellent, and the country beautiful: but, in other places, the state of the roads is execrable; and this circumstance, added to the nature of the vehicles, must subtract considerably from the pleasure of a tour through the western departments:

'We have before described the cabriolets of Dieppe and Rouen. The cabriolet of La Flêche and Angers in which we embarked for the latter place is totally different from them, and infinitely more detestable: with *them* you may compromise the matter tolerably well, and posting to your account before you set out jolts and convulsions innumerable, feel tolerably at your ease with regard to the final safety of your bones.—Here the first motion of the horses is like the signal of alarm; you feel it like an electrical shock in your heart; and, if your female companions be furnished with but a very moderate *quantum* of that elegant English attainment commonly called "*nervous complaints*," "*affections of the nerves*," and so on, it is succeeded by a general scream.

'You have seen in Piccadilly the basket-carts which carry the mails from the post office to the coaches waiting at the Gloucester-coffee-house for them—take by way of recipé one of these; let it be four feet wide and nine feet long, and of a height just sufficient to admit your head beneath the cover when it is at rest; pass two planks from side to side by way of benches, and pierce as many air-holes in its side to keep its contents from absolute suffocation. Mount this admirable contrivance upon the hinder axle-tree of a north-country stage-waggon of about two-hundred weight, and attach to each extremity of it a wheel with fellies nine inches by five, and bound with iron in proportion: when all things are ready, "*stow away*" three passengers upon each bench, and as many upon the front and back seat, and pile up, no matter how high, their baggage upon the roof, and *voila* the Angers diligence ready to start!'

It was impossible to visit the scene in which the Chouans, under the name of the *Christian army*, committed their horrible ravages, without shedding some lamentations on this detestable warfare, and reprobating its promoters. Affecting anecdotes are related in this part of Mr. Hughes's tour, which are too long for our insertion: but his general picture of this war, and of its effects on the minds of the people, must be exhibited:

'Accustomed thus from day to day, from year to year, to slaughter and desolation, we cannot wonder that the national character at length gave way: the most exquisite sensibility may be rendered callous; continual convulsions will blunt the keen edge of our sensi-

bilities, and render us capable of viewing with apathy and unconcern, scenes which once could harrow up the soul—long ere the termination of the conflict, its horrid consequences ceased to shock the mind! —Destruction became the order of the day, and while the cannon were roaring on their ramparts, and platoons were momentarily firing around their walls, the theatres were crowded as in the profoundest peace!—Cart-loads of wounded dying soldiers, many of them their friends and acquaintances, though stretching with agony at every jolt of their rude conveyance, would scarcely attract the gaze of sympathy in the multitudes who thronged by them to the *spectacles!* —nay, even tender and delicate females could so far divest themselves of that which is more beautiful than personal beauty, (viz.) softness and delicacy, as even to walk to the field of battle as to an amusement, to gaze upon its horrible desolation, and even to trample upon the breathless remains of those who had been the companions of their infancy, the sharers of their youthful sports!

'When we talk of war, our minds revert to the thousands who are cut off from their country, their families, their friends; but what is the destruction of thousands to mournful effects like these upon the survivors?—It is horrible when heard of from afar, when in imagination we listen to its dismal din and view the garments of our friends "rolled in blood;" but we must follow in its traces to conceive all its horror.—Never till I found myself in this hapless country had my fancy painted to me the thousandth part of its accursed deformity:—I had conceived that the English prints, to fire the public indignation against the abettors of this cruel contest, had embellished their stories with fictitious enormities;—would to God I had found it so! Alas! they have given us but "the small dust of the balance"—they have not even collected the most atrocious features of it!—"Look, (says Mons. La P—) across the Loir on which we are now standing!' My eyes swim with tears and my hand trembles while I think of this desolated department!—"For twenty leagues square (says he) there is not a field in which human blood has not been shed!—Not a town, not a village, not a chateau, not a church, not a cabin, not a roof, has been spared!—In one undistinguished desolation all is laid low!—Where hospitality trimmed the chearful hearth, and loaded the smoaking board, silence and solitude alone are found—the cry of the wolf, and the screech of the owl alone are heard! At the command of the iron-hearted, iron-fanged monster, the aged and the young, the wounded and the sick, those who were labouring in the pangs of childbirth, and those who were struggling with the agonies of death, were hurried away—a blanket the sole remnant of affluence and comfort!—the vault of heaven their only canopy!—the blaze of their burning mansions the only light which gleamed around them, alas! which gleamed to light them to despair!"

'If we may credit men of temperance, men of moderation, if any one can be moderate when speaking upon such a subject, not less than 250,000 lives were here cast away partly in the field, partly in consequence of this general desolation! To crown the whole, *if we may credit the same authority*, 250,000,000 sterling of forged assignats were

were issued at the same time by the ———————— in these and the surrounding departments; I will not vouch for the correctness of the statement, nor will I assert that it formed the data on which the downfall of the French finances was so repeatedly prophesied in the British parliament—if I mistake not, it was asserted by a great law authority, now gone to answer for his crimes, or reap the reward of his virtues, that all this was perfectly fair, and consistent with the laws of war.'

We presume not to say what degree of credit is due to Mr. H.'s authority: but, though he represents his information as derived from men of temperance, their displeasure against this country has probably occasioned much exaggeration.

Mr. Hughes pays one compliment to Paris, which an Englishman would not expect to hear: 'In Paris, (says he,) for the first time since I quitted old England, have I seen fine beef. It is not noticed, indeed, every 20 minutes, as in the British metropolis; but that which is exhibited cannot be surpassed.'—Though he gives the filthiness of the French no quarter, from the odious congregate in their kennels to those portable dunghills, their pocket handkerchiefs, he allows them to have regard to cleanliness in the distribution of napkins.

Speaking of the effects of the revolutionary principles on the national character, the author says: 'As might be expected, the disposition of the inferior orders has been but little meliorated by the revolution: the perverse and preposterous notions of equality, with which the abettors of anarchy and despotism combined to din their ears, have completely poisoned the antient French mildness and urbanity, and their rudeness and incivility are intolerably offensive.'

From a divine, we might look for some remarks on the state of religion in France; and the following is a part of Mr. Hughes's report on this head:

'Practical atheists are every where to be found, and no where in greater plenty than among the late champions for social order, religion, and (to consummate the climax of blasphemy,) God. But speculative atheists, i. e. atheists in principle, are as rare in France as in Britain. Deists are innumerable: in fact, we may almost say, that all the men of intelligence, all the men of learning, are deists;—so far from being atheists, they one and all believe in one God, the first cause of all things—in his providential care of his creation—in a future state, in which the immortal spirit shall be rewarded or punished according to the things done in the body. Of Jesus Christ they have a high, a respectful idea as the first of moralists—a man of the most unrivalled virtue; but, they deny the divinity of his mission—the conundrums of Calvinism, which are equally the conundrums of popery with regard to his person and dignity; and, it is very evident, that they have renounced christianity because they have never

seen it, but as tricked out in the meretricious dresses which these equally meek and gentle parties have prepared for it—because they are ignorant of it as it is in its own native simplicity, and they will renounce it till it is represented to them, not as corrupt and impious priests have made it, but as its pious founder first constituted it.'

Popery is considered as having nothing to do with principle, and as consisting in a certain round of formalities.

The author's remarks on French agriculture are very concise, and not much to the credit of the French farmers. Their general practice is reprobated; and Mr. H. pronounces that, till they acquire a taste for roast-beef, manure must be scarce, and the agriculture of France cannot advance. Considerable difficulties seem to obstruct this mode of improvement.

'It may appear singular, (says Mr. H.) but I have not the smallest doubt upon the subject, that whole departments in France could not furnish Smithfield with its accustomed supply for three months: no where but in the meadows about Liseux, in Normandy, where they are fattened for the Paris market, do we perceive what may be considered an adequate proportion of cattle, and these are collected together from Mayenne, Anjou, and parts yet more remote, perhaps, from a semicircle of 100 miles radius;—and here, I may add, I saw the only fine cattle which I met with on the continent.'

The result of Mr. H.'s observations is that 'the English agriculturist has nothing to learn in France,—but there is much which he might teach.'

On the whole, after having fairly stated advantages and disadvantages, Mr. Hughes decidedly pronounces France to be less eligible than his own country; where, among other blessings, we enjoy that material comfort of which the subjects of the Chief Consul cannot boast—Security.

As the Departments constitute the subject of this volume, the curiosities of Paris are dispatched in a note, and in this note we observe two mistakes; the Palace of the Tribunate (*ci-devant Palais Royal*) is called *Palais du Tribunal;* and Lysippus is said to have lived 3000 years ago, whereas he flourished only about 325 years before the Christian æra.

The engravings inserted in this volume exhibit the mode of yoking oxen to the plough in France, and the manner of loading and drawing the wine-carts. A hint may be borrowed from the former, for the improvement of carriages, with respect to the facility of loading them with heavy articles.

Moy.

Art.

ART. VI. *Scripture Illustrated*, by Engravings referring to Natural Science, Customs, Manners, &c. By the Editors of Calmet's History of the Bible. Parts i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi. 4to. 5s. each Part. C. Taylor.

Dictionary

HAVING finished their dictionary *, together with the fragments and other supplemental additions, the industrious editors here introduce a new work, prosecuting a similar design with the former, but adopting rather a different method. Its plan and design may be comprehended from the introductory remarks:

'It is divided into two parts; one of which, containing *engravings*, is published without any present attention to regularity, but merely as convenience permits; yet is so marked, that it may be reduced to order at pleasure. The other division of our work pursues a different course, and takes those passages of holy-writ, which it proposes to illustrate, in the order of the books, as they lie in the bible. It cannot have escaped the reader, that such a companion, as well to the bible itself, as to those numerous commentaries which are extant among us, has long been wanted; neither indeed can such an omission well be accounted for, without fully understanding the difficulty of procuring the materials and the expence of presenting them to the public. Our wish is to set before the eyes of our reader what he must otherwise consult numerous volumes to procure, and what, when procured, should he be so fortunate, will cost him great labour and much leisure to arrange. We venture also to predict, that in no very distant period of time, a compendious digest of natural knowlege will be thought as necessary an appendix to the holy bible, as necessary a companion in the study of sacred literature, as an atlas of maps to geography, or portraits of animals to natural history. In proportion as the knowlege of the bible is important, whether we consider its origin or its effects, its injunctions or its prohibitions, its influence on the heart or its tendency in society; in such proportion the knowlege of natural things contained in the bible is important also. Consider its extent; it ranges through all the kingdoms of nature: consider its accuracy; often it comprises the very *minutiæ* of art, and art, too, enveloped in technical terms! There will ever be new discoveries to be made in the bible; not, indeed, in the principles of faith—that neither desires nor admits of novelty; nor, perhaps, in the explication of those principles—that should not now be supposed unsettled. In the application of historical facts, somewhat new may be attempted, perhaps may be accomplished; but chiefly in natural science is much to be expected.'

The editors appear to be aware of the obvious danger of giving too much liberty to fancy in a work of this kind: indeed, they ought to be peculiarly guarded, and sacredly attentive to truth of representation. They justly observe: 'Let no man

* See Rev. Vol. xxxvi. N. S. p. 308.

fear that increase of knowlege will occasion decrease of piety; we deny the fact; it will augment true religion, the religion of the heart, though it may indeed diminish superstition, that canker of strong passions, and of weak understandings.'

If our confined pages would admit, we should willingly produce a greater variety of specimens from these interesting discussions than we can now insert: but we shall make room for a few; though even they must be somewhat abridged.

'NAPTHALI.

Genesis, xlix. 21.

'Napthali is a hind let loose;
He giveth goodly words.

'That this passage requires illustration, will be evident from a slight examination of its grammar, or inquiry into its meaning. Napthali is a *hind*, a *hind* is a *female* deer; *he*, the sign of the masculine gender, giveth goodly words. Napthali is here both masculine and feminine: but in what sense, or to what purpose is it here said of a deer, whether male or female, he giveth *words?* and how are these words *goodly?*—What idea has the reader annexed to this passage? where is the unity of the whole, or the propriety of the parts? how does this allusion correspond with nature, or with the subsequent situation or history of this tribe? We receive but little assistance if we turn to the versions, ancient or modern.'

A different account has been given of the passage by Bochart, Houbigant, Durell, Michaelis, &c. in agreement with the LXX. "Napthali is a spreading (terebinthine) tree, giving beautiful branches." This, it is here added, 'renders the simile uniform; but the allusion to a tree seems to be purposely reserved by the venerable patriarch for his son Joseph, who is compared to the boughs of a tree. Now Joseph would be assimilated to an *inferior* object, if Napthali had been compared to a parent tree before him: which repetition of idea is every way unlikely.'

Having witnessed the embarrassment of interpreters, the present editors apply to natural history; first offering some remarks on the Hebrew: 'The word *aileh* may be like our word, *deer*, i. e. applicable to either sex;'—'the word rendered, *let loose*, imports an active motion,—an *emission*, a *dismission*, a *sending forth* to a distance:'—'*he giveth*: this word may denote *shooting forth*: it is used of production, as of the earth, which shoots forth, yields her increase, Lev. xxiv. 4.—*goodly words*; they here acquiesce in the version, *goodly branches*; and 'on these principles, the whole passage will read thus:

'Napthali is a deer roaming at liberty,
He shooteth forth noble branches [majestic antlers].

'The English word *branches* is applied to the stag, with exactly the same allusion as the Hebrew word: the French say *bois*, wood, for a stag's-

stag's-horns. To justify this version, observe, that the horns of a stag are annually shed, and annually re-produced; they are ample, according to the plenty and nutritious quality of his pasturage, or are stinted in their growth, if his food has been sparing or deficient in nourishment. Buffon reasons at length on this subject; Art. *Cerf.*'

Accordingly, after a quotation from this naturalist, the writer directs these remarks to the prediction of Jacob:

'Napthali shall inhabit a country so rich, so fertile, so quiet, so unmolested, that, after having fed to the full, on the most nutritious pasturage, he shall shoot out branches, *i. e.* antlers, &c. of the most magnificent, and even majestic magnitude. Thus does the patriarch denote the happy lot of Napthali, not directly, but indirectly; not by energy of immediate description, but by inevitable inference, arising from observation of its effects. In fact the lot of this tribe was rich in pasture, and "his soil," as Calmet observes, "was very fruitful in corn and oil." So that we have both correct verbal propriety, and subsequent fulfilment of the prophecy, in favour of our interpretation of this passage.' 'I presume now to conclude, that we are under no necessity of recurring to the simile of a tree, in order to reduce this passage to clear and simple meaning; still less are we obliged to retain the mistaken rendering of our public translation, which presents us with an *impossibility*, and a *contradiction*; especially while we have such evident marks of verisimility, and propriety in favour of the translation we have proposed.'

The plate annexed to this article exhibits three heads of the deer kind, said to be from Ridinger, a famous German painter of animals; one of which is the head of a stag that, 'having fed at pleasure in a forest of Germany, has acquired very large antlers, very thick stems, very broad horns, so spreading that the points they form amount to no less a number than sixty-six: let him, then, stand as a proof of the effects of liberty and plenty, like the son of Jacob, to whom he forms an object of comparison.' This is a very ingenious comment, to justify the exhibition, in the plates, of stags-heads with spreading antlers: but the annotator should have known that the number of branches on the horns of the stag depends on the age of the animal. The translation of the LXX, and other versions which banish the *deer* from the text, lead to a preferable explanation; as it includes a metaphor peculiarly adapted to the woodland situation of Naphthali.

The dissertation which follows relates to the Hebrew word תנין *tannin*, or in the plural *tanninim*, and translated *sea-monsters*, as Lament. iv. 3. 'Now, (says the writer,) philosophy knows nothing of *monsters*; whatever is capable of posterity, of having young ones to suckle, is no *monster*. I know that the word *tannin* is supposed, by those who have endeavoured to understand

understand the natural history of the bible, to denote a *whale*, or the *whale-kind* *: but I rather wish to restrain it to the *amphibia*; to that class of animals which haunt the shores, as well as frequent the waters.' He then proceeds to inquire how the *tannin*, or *tannim*, are described in the Scripture; and the result is that he fixes on the *Seal* as answering, in some of its varieties, to many particulars.—'The reader will recollect that I have not presumed to determine the species, but have merely attempted to establish the propriety of rendering *tannin* by the class of *amphibia*.'

In a comment on 1 Samuel, ch. vi. the carriages (wheel-carriages) of Eastern countries fall under notice. The *ogeleh*, waggon, covered waggon, is first mentioned; and, among other remarks, it is said;—'That this kind of waggon was used for carrying considerable weights, and even cumbersome goods, (therefore fairly analogous to our own waggons—tilted waggons,) we learn from the expression of the Psalmist, xlvi. 10.

'He maketh wars to cease to the end of the earth;
The bow he breaketh; and cutteth asunder the spear;
The chariot (ogeluth) he burneth in the fire.'

In thus mentioning the instruments of war, the bow and the spear, the writer adds: 'The waggons (for the word is plural) which are used to return home loaded with plunder, these share the fate of their fellows, the bow and the spear, and these are burned in the fire,—the very idea of the classic allegory; peace burning the implements of war! and introduced here with the happiest effect: not the General's *marecabeh* (state *chariot*), but the plundering waggons. This is still more expressive if these waggons carried *captives*, which we know they did in other instances; women and children: "The captive-carrying waggon is burnt." There can be no stronger description of the effects of peace, and it closes the period with emphasis.' The Hebrew word עגלות is rendered by the LXX θυρεους, *scuta*, which makes the enumeration complete; 'the bow, spear, and *shield*.' The word in the original most probably signifies *a kind of carriage*, it being derived from עגל *circulavit*: but there is still more reason for referring it to a war-chariot than to a *waggon*.

The Hebrew words *recab*, and *marecabeh*, (the latter evidently a derivative from the former,) next offer themselves to attention; and the first is supposed to denote a carriage or chariot with two horses, sometimes the horses, and at other

* Not always. In more places than one, it denotes a dragon or serpent: see Deut. xxxii. 33, and Exod. vii. 10.; in the latter place, the words are ויהי לתנין *Et fuit in serpentem:*

times

times the driver or charioteer; and this last signification is thought to cast some light on 2 Kings, ii. 12.—'This gives a different idea to the exclamation of Elisha, when losing Elijah; "My father! my father, the *recab*—the conductor of Israel, as of a chariot, and of his horsemen;" one who has had as much solicitude for the guidance of Israel, as the driver of a chariot has for the safe conduct of his vehicle.' The other word is apprehended to point out a carriage with four horses, a carriage of pomp and dignity. Thus Joseph rode in the second state chariot of Pharaoh's kingdom; and Sisera was expected to make his triumphant entrance in such a chariot; for his mother says, "why tarry the wheels of his *marecabeh*," Judg. v. 28. which he had also used in battle, ver. 15.

A plate of medals and coins is added, to stengthen or illustrate these remarks.

Formerly, the attention of the inquisitive and the curious was much directed to what were denominated the *written mountains*; and many years ago, the honest mind of the then Bishop of Clogher was much engaged by the *Gebel el Mokatab*. Warm and earnest he was in his inquiries and proposals on the subject: but it seems with great reason to be now laid aside. Niebuhr, if we rightly recollect, was directed to inscriptions on a rock which he did not esteem worthy of notice; nor do we observe that these once-famed characters are particularly specified in the descriptions here exhibited of Sinai, Pharan, &c.: but we find 'thoughts on the subject of early-writing;' and these *thoughts* are occasioned by inscriptions on the bricks said to be found in the ruins of antient Babylon *. The characters, frequently resembling nails or arrow-heads, are supposed to denote, not letters, nor syllables, but complete sounds, *i.e.* words, or signs of ideas. They are here compared with other inscriptions discovered in the ruins of Persepolis: but, whether they might be regarded as remnants of Nebuchadnezzar's days, or of times more distant, even of the original tower of Belus, is an inquiry into which we will not enter: it is likely that they would be of much later date than either. The editor, however, proceeds briefly to discuss the question concerning the antiquity of writing, or 'the science of communicating ideas by signs.'—We perceive no absurdity in the supposition that the antediluvians might be in possession of this invention, in some form:' but concerning the remnants or records of Thyoth (Thoth), or his inscriptions on pillars, we may be allowed to be sceptical, though our author 'hastens to undertake the desperate cause of a passage in *Josephus, Antiquities, lib.* i. *cap.* 2. which has

* The situation of Babylon must be ascertained, before mention is made of *bricks* found in its ruins.

usually

usually been treated as no better than fabulous by learned men; where, he says, "*The posterity of Seth*, having been forewarned of the deluge, *erected two columns* [ΣΤΗΛΩΝ], *one of stone, the other of brick;* on which they recorded their discoveries in astronomy, &c. The column of brick is still extant in the land of *Seirath*, or *Syrias*." He offers arguments to support his hypothesis: but we shall turn to a very different subject: 'The Mole.'

'Our translators (observes this writer) have rendered *Weesel*, the Hebrew word CHOLED, in conformity with other versions, and not a few commentators; and they have rendered *Mole*, the Hebrew word *tinshemet;* from which renderings we have ventured to differ. Having, as we presume to think, established the regularity of the system of the sacred writer, considered in reference to natural history, we have concluded that the word *tinshemet*, being at the close of a list of lizards, must denote a lizard, like its fellows; and that the mole is too distant in its nature to be properly introduced in such connection.—But we ought, perhaps, to give some reasons for differing from our worthy translators, in rendering *mole* what they have rendered *weesel*; and this we do, by observing, 1st, That the present name of the mole in the east is *khuld*, which is undeniably the same word as the Hebrew *choled:* 2dly, That the Hebrew word *choled*, *chold*, or *chuld*, is to *creep into*, and that the same Syriac word implies to *creep underneath*, to creep into by *burrowing*, *i. e.* under ground; and so it is used, 2 Tim. iii. 6. in the Syriac version, creeping into houses, by going—*burrowing* under them, which is the true idea of the Greek, and a very expressive phraseology. It is well known that such is the disposition of the mole, a creature formed expressly for the purpose of *burrowing* and appointed to this mode of life; and not merely, as some creatures are, to *burrowing* above ground, but to *burrowing* under ground. For this purpose it has, as the reader will observe in the figure, a very large, broad, and powerful forefoot; it is short, thick, and muscular; while the hind-foot, though strong, much more resembles those of other quadrupeds.—It is formed to live wholly under the earth, that no place should be left untenanted:—Less than a rat and bigger than a mouse, with a coat of fine, short, glossy, black hair; its nose long and pointed, its eyes scarcely possible to be discerned: instead of ears, has only holes: its neck short; body thick and round; small short tail; legs also very short; as it rests on its belly, the feet appear growing out of its body: the ancients, and some moderns, thought the animal utterly blind; but Derham, by a microscope, discovered all the parts of an eye.—By the breadth, strength, and shortness of the forefeet, which incline outwards, *it throws back the earth with ease;* had they been longer, the falling in of the earth would have prevented the quick repetition of their strokes, and they would have required a larger hole for their exertions.—Little vision is sufficient for a creature *who lives in darkness;* had the organ been larger, it would have been perpetually liable to injury by falling earth: that inconvenience is avoided by its being very small, and very closely covered

with hair. *Buried in the earth*, it seldom stirs out, unless forced by violent rains, or, when in pursuit of prey, it gets into the open air, which is hardly its natural element; *it chooses the looser, softer grounds, beneath which he can travel with greater ease*, where also it finds most worms and insects, on which it chiefly preys: it is most active, and casts up most earth before rain; and in winter, before a thaw; at those times worms and insects being in motion, and approaching the surface. In dry weather, the mole seldom forms hillocks; but penetrates deeper after its prey.—The mole is scarcely found, except in cultivated countries.'—

'There is another passage, Isaiah, ii. 20. where our translation uses the word *mole*;—"idols shall be thrown to the moles, and to the bats;"—the original word here used is not *choled*, but [as it stands in our printed copies] in two words, *chaphar pharut*. Bochart, however, is for reading these two words as one; and so three copies collated by Dr. Kennicott read it. In this case, these *chapharpharut*, חפרפרות will derive from the word *chaphar*, to sink, to delve, *to dig down into, to penetrate*, a very expressive and characteristic notion of a name for the mole.—But is it likely the mole should have in Hebrew *two* names? I rather doubt it; and therefore, having appropriated to it the name *choled*, would inquire what these *chapharpharut* can be. To accomplish this, let us examine the passage; which is the more necessary as the versions have been utterly perplexed about it. *Montanus*, keeping the words in two, renders to *dig depths*; the LXX, ματαια, *vanities*; *Aquila*, ορυγας, depths or ditches. Theodotian, not knowing to which side to incline, preserves the original word.'

Having therefore premised that the general scope of the passage is a threatening against pride, and a denunciation of vengeance on idols and idol-worshippers, the writer pursues the investigation: the result of which is;—'Since the word *chaphar* explicitly means *to sink*, and this is its proper idea, why not accept it here also, and dismiss the *moles* from this passage of the prophet; considering *chapharpharut* as a duplication; an emphatical augmentation of the original idea;—*sinks, deep sinks*: the deepest cavities dug by human powers.' Whether dug by *human power*, or not, does not seem essential to the idea.

Thus disposing of the moles, there remains the question,—what is to be done with the *bats*?—This is answered without much difficulty, and with some reason, by supposing that not *bats*, but the *places which they inhabit*, caverns of antient buildings, subterraneous vaults, (bat-residences,) are here intended:—"The chief shall cast his idols of silver and gold into sinks and subterraneous cavities:" or, "he shall cast them into *sinks*, even to the bats."—*Moles*, it is generally allowed, never abide in rocks, or ruins, or dwellings,—but *beneath the looser, softer grounds*.' The writer, we doubt not, is well aware that *casting to the moles and bats* is said to have been proverbial, among the Hebrews, for the greatest neglect and slight.

slight.—He appears, on the whole, to succeed in his attempt to confine the Hebrew name of the mole to one word, *choled*, by which he supposes it is expressed in the prohibitory passage in Leviticus.

Dr. Lowth, in his New Testament, preserves *the moles and the bats*, and refers to Harmer, Obs. vol. ii. p. 455.

Passing by a number of articles, we hasten to take a brief notice of—'An expository index, referring to such parts of the books of Scripture, as may be illustrated by means of natural science.' Some pages of this index are attached to each number. For a short specimen of its nature and manner, we take a few of its first lines:

'*In the beginning* God *created*—composed *the* whole (את AT) *heaven—and the* whole *earth:* this word *whole* has been omitted in our translation, yet the insertion of it seems necessary, and it seems, too, to render the following *vau, But,*—But *the earth was without form and void,* till that period of which the following history is about to treat. The Hebrew word rendered *to create*, signifies to *arrange*, to *compose* into order a production, whether from former materials or not. *The Heaven.* This word is plural in our language, as well as in the Hebrew, and signifies several *heaven.* In the present instance it means: 1. The fixed stars, in their variously distant stations, from each other, and from the earth. 2. More immediately the planetary system, of which our earth is a member: the planets which circulate around the sun as a centre. The planets are really globes of land and water, like our earth, but, by reason of their distance from us, we perceive them only by their effulgence, and to ordinary observation they appear as so many stars, among the firmament stars. Moreover, though there be several secondary planets, and likewise numerous comets, connected with our system, yet as these are not visible to us, like the primary planets, I presume, they were not referred to by the sacred writer under the term *heaven*, as I think the visible planets were.'

The author pursues his remarks in an explanation of the plate of the solar system, which is annexed. He observes, in his farther progress, the wise and admirable order in which creation proceeds;—'*light*, the first great stimulus,—then, air, the general envelope of the globe,—after air, water, possessing many of the properties of air—and also of earth,—the last element in the list,—which with all its varieties meets our observation; and thus the chaotic state of the globe is exchanged for a state of regularity, order, and *arrangement.* Now, let life start into exercise, but in regular order; first, vegetable life,' &c.—We cannot attend him farther, but shall insert remarks on a different subject:

'*Exod.* x. *v* 21. Plague of darkness.—I presume that the inhabitants of England and Holland have frequent opportunities of contemplating

templating darknesses by means of fogs, &c. which in the climate of Egypt would be altogether miraculous. Where the air is so clear as hardly to form clouds, those clouds can much less appear in the state of that thick vapour which a fog in London sometimes assumes. It is common among us to say the "fog is so thick it may be *cut with a knife!*" (and I find to my surprise the same phraseology in *Schewzer;*) which I take to be perfectly analogous to the expression of the sacred writer, "darkness which might be felt." I am sure I have often felt the grossly vaporated air, the dense, compact mistiness, of a London atmosphere. The duration of this fog is marked as being *three days*, which I suppose is to be taken in the Hebrew sense, as denoting the close of the first day, the whole of the second day, and the beginning of the third day; so that the Egyptians must have been very sensible of their embarrassing situation. As for the expressions "that they could not see each other, nor did they rise from their places," these, I suppose, may be taken somewhat at large, since artificial lights, flambeaux, &c. were in use. But these probably gave that kind of obscure solemnity of illumination, which our London lamps exhibit during the darkness of a foggy evening. This kind of dim half-light would astonish the inhabitants of Egypt, who would rather sit at home than venture abroad, and endeavour, at their personal risk, to visit their friends, or to follow their occupations,

> And through the palpable obscure, find out
> Their uncouth way.——'

Many additions might be made to the preceding extracts, but we hope that these will prove sufficient to assist the reader's judgment. We cannot say that the criticisms are at all times just and satisfactory, nor do we in every instance concur in the conclusions and opinions which the work presents: yet we must regard it as an ingenious and laborious performance. It requires, indeed, a judgment well corrected, and accuracy well guarded, when we suffer ourselves to rove among languages, etymologies, varying manners and appearances, and particularly oriental customs, &c.; since resemblances may seize the fancy, and rise to a great degree of probability, when they have no real foundation in truth. The reader will unquestionably be entertained, and often improved, by the variety of information here amassed, even though he may esteem it requisite on some occasions to suspend his judgment.

In general, the style of this work is plain and correct, but some instances of inattention and negligence occur.—The numerous plates add greatly to its value.

Some additional numbers have lately reached us.

Hi.

ART. VII. *Statistical Survey of the County of Dublin*, with Observations on the Means of Improvement; drawn up, for the Consideration and by Order of the Dublin Society, by Lieutenant Joseph Archer. 8vo. pp. 300. 8s. sewed. Nicol.

MR. Archer presents himself before the public in the double character of a defender and an improver of his country; and if his military prowess be equal to his good sense and ingenuousness as a writer, he must be considered as a valuable member of society in both capacities. He confesses that illiberal prejudice has long disgraced Ireland; and that, in the articles of *tillage*, *inclosing* and *draining waste lands*, *planting*, *irrigation*, and improvement of *wool*, it is still very defective. By having passed several years in agricultural observation and practice in England, he has qualified himself for instructing the inhabitants of this other portion of the united kingdom. Sensible that such a work as the statistical survey of a county must be liable, from its very nature, to numerous defects, he delayed his publication, that he might revise and take a retrospect of the whole; and that, by emendations and additions, it might be rendered as perfect as it was possible for him to make it: yet still he is persuaded that errors and omissions exist, which he hopes will be remedied by more correct and ample information.—From the modest and unassuming manner in which Mr. A. speaks of himself and his undertaking in the preface, we were prejudiced in his favour; and our examination of the volume has not induced us to alter our first impressions.

According to the plan laid down, in the suggestions of inquiry for gentlemen who may undertake agricultural surveys, Mr. Archer commences with an account of the geographical state and circumstances of the county of Dublin. Its *situation* and *extent*, *divisions*, *climate*, and *soil*, are thus described:

'The county of Dublin is situated between 53° 10″ and 53° 37″ N. latitude, and between 6° 4″ and 6° 36″ W. longitude of Greenwich, on the eastern coast of Ireland. It is bounded on the east, from Bray-Head to Balbriggen, by the Irish sea, being an extent of about thirty miles, if the irregularities of the coast be followed. From near Balbriggen by the north and part of the west, to within a mile and a half of Leixlip, it is bounded by the county of East Meath, being about twenty-three miles, following the irregularities of the boundary; from thence round the west and south west, for about ten miles, it is bounded by the county of Kildare; from thence to Bray-Head to the south, it is bounded by the county of Wicklow, about fifteen miles in extent, nearly all mountain.

'The whole county contains 231 square miles, or 147,840 square acres, of which the mountains and wastes occupy nearly one-eighth,

Or

	Square miles	Square acres
Or,	29	18,560
Hedges, ditches, buildings, roads, and rivers, about one-tenth, -	23	14,720
Hay and pasture, - -	86	55,040
Corn of all sorts, and potatoes,	93	59,520
	231	147,840

Sect. 2. *Divisions.*

The county is divided into six baronies and a half, as follows:

- Balruddery, Nethercross, Coolock, Castleknock, — North of the river Liffey.
- Newcastle, Uppercross, — South of the river Liffey.
- Half Rathdown — The other half in the co. Wicklow.

'Balruddery and Nethercross, including the adjoining parts of Coolock and Castleknock, are more peculiarly adapted to tillage, as being more remote from the capital than the other baronies; the high rents near the city would not answer for corn, but, on the nearer approach of the two latter baronies to Dublin, lands being of more value in pasture, and the rents too high for tillage, they are converted to the former use, principally for dairy cows, horses, hay, &c. Very little tillage is carried on in the baronies south of the river Liffey, viz. Newcastle, Uppercross, and half Rathdown; the remote south parts of these divisions, bordering on the county of Wicklow, being for the most part uncultivated heath, and rocky mountain, unfriendly to vegetation, and great part of them difficult to be brought to any manner of cultivation, or to answer any purpose whatever; those parts I mean, that are covered with loose rocks, and destitute of soil.

Sect. 3. *Climate.*

'The farmers at the declivity of the mountains, mentioned in the last section, are later in sowing and reaping than those in the low flat land, the air being there moist and sharper, which, they say, prevents the plough moving so early in the spring, as a lower or more level situation would admit. The crops of hay and corn in general through the county, appear to be later than those produced in the same latitude in England. Perhaps this may proceed from the cold, clayey, and damp nature of the land, the draining and improving of which would assist the climate. Easterly winds are very prevailing in April, and check vegetation, sometimes after it has made some progress. Rain has been more frequent formerly than for the last two years. The south-west and southerly winds, which, wafted over from the Atlantic Ocean, are the prevailing winds in this climate, and generally bring rain, blow over a great part of Ireland, before they reach the county of Dublin, and the mountains, in the passage of those moist vapours, condense and attract a great part of them; which circumstance occa-

sions less humidity in this county, than is experienced in the south-west parts. Snow seldom continues long on the ground near the sea-coast; this, if attended to, ought to hasten the operations of husbandry in the spring, as corn is seldom sowed as early as it should be.

Sect. 4. *Soil and Surface.*

'The vegetative soil of this county is very shallow; the quantity of scavengers' dung, or sulliage of the streets, brought from the city for about four miles round, has, however, greatly improved it. The sub-stratum is almost universally a cold clay, containing water like a dish, and keeping the surface in an unprofitable state, unless where draining and proper attention has been paid to improving it; by this means, in numberless instances, it has effected a total change in the soil, and makes a striking contrast between it and any adjoining unimproved land. There is a small quantity of turf-bog in the northern parts, such as at Garristown, which contains about four or five hundred acres on the borders of the county, the principal part bog, and the like quantity of the same bog extending into the county of Meath. The common of the Ring, near Balruddery, is also partly composed of bog; in the south there are also turf-bogs, in the mountains adjoining Montpelier and Kilmashogue, which alone cover three or four square miles. Great part of those mountains have an irregular surface, and great acclivities, and are in many places covered with rocks and stones, so as to render them nearly useless for any purpose that I know of, except planting the crannies of the rocks with seeds of different hardy trees. Turning from this gloomy prospect to the interior of the county, a most beautiful scene opens to our view, of numbers of pleasant villages, and ornamented country seats, abundantly spread over the surface. Were there more trees combined with this elegant scene, it would be highly interesting and advantageous. There are a few salt marshes interspersed along the coast, but none of any consequence as to size.'

Under the head of *minerals*, the author expresses his confidence in the possibility of finding coal in the county of Dublin, and urges the inhabitants to make the experiment by the mining augre.

The mode of culture in Ireland is noticed only to reprobate it. Improved methods are pointed out, draining is particularly recommended, and it is urged on the Irish farmers as an indisputable agricultural maxim never to be set aside, *that a meliorating crop should for ever succeed an exhausting one.* A gentleman is reported to have tried with success the experiment of driving oxen at plough with *a bit* in their mouths, in the same manner as horses are driven: if this mode should ultimately answer, here the English may learn of the Irish.

The cattle in Ireland are said to be in such a progressive state of improvement, that the English in a few years will be excelled: but the dairies appear to be on the decline; for it

is

is stated that, whereas formerly there were kept within four miles of Dublin nearly 7000 milch cows, in May 1801 only about 1600 were maintained.

No exact statement is given of the population: but that of the *city* of Dublin is said, on the ground of probability, to be not less than 300,000, and that of the county to amount to about 170,000. We shall pass over the accounts of the metropolis, and of the towns and villages in this district: but, considering the importance of the linen manufactory to Ireland, we must not omit the following authentic particulars:

'*A Return of Packs and Boxes* * *entered inwards and outwards at the Linen hall, from the first of March* 1799, *to the first of March* 1800.

	Packs and boxes.
Inwards,	9,915
Outwards,	7,936

'*An Account of the Irish Linen Cloth exported from the first of March* 1799, *to the first of March* 1800.

	Yards.
England,	31,425,969
Scotland,	1,479,423
America,	1,140,533
West Indies,	941,913
Germany,	3,000
Portugal,	185,437
Russia,	1,000
Madeira,	9,098
Streights,	1,783
	35,188,156

'*A Return of Packs and Boxes entered inwards and outwards at the Linen hall, from the first of March* 1800, *to the first of March* 1801.

	Packs and boxes.
Inwards,	12,570
Outwards,	8,355

This is exclusive of linens brought to the calenders.

C. DUFFIN, Inspector Gen.'

Our pleasure in noticing the multitude of private seats, which embellish this county, is completely destroyed by the picture of wretchedness among the lower ranks; who, in respect to habitation, food, and fuel, are miserably accommodated. Their partiality to whiskey is deplored; and Mr. A. expresses his hopes that means will be taken to encourage the use of beer among them, instead of spirituous liquors.

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* Averaged at containing 1,800 yards each.

The roads in this county are said to be in excellent order; and a good report is made of canal navigation and of the fisheries.

In the section on the state of circulation of money or paper, the following brief detail occurs:

'In March 1797, a run was made upon the National Bank of England, in order to draw out the specie. In three days they so far succeeded in their attempt, as to get off eleven millions of guineas. Government immediately summoned a privy council, and stopped the issuing any more guineas, and in lieu thereof issued small notes. A similar attempt was made on the Banks in Dublin, and a like remedy was immediately interposed, and they also issued a quantity of small notes as a substitute, to answer the currency of trade.'

We apprehend that Mr. Archer has been misinformed respecting the money drawn out of the English Bank, previously to its being restricted from farther issues of specie. Had the amount of cash paid in three days been *eleven millions of guineas*, waggons and carts must have been *put in requisition* as much as on a *forced march of troops*.

By the introduction of machinery, the woollen manufactory is rapidly improving in Ireland; and with the view of farther advancing it, Mr. A. has introduced some observations on the growth of wool, by Mr. Nixon, which are calculated to attract the attention of farmers and cloth-makers.

The observation that 'timber is very scarce, and that it is cutting down in a fourfold proportion to the trees which are planted,' ought to rouse the gentlemen of Ireland to increase their nurseries and plantations without loss of time; and, from the account of the quantity of bog and waste ground, the county appears to present them with an ample theatre for their exertions.

In the Appendix, irrigation is recommended; and an argument against emigration is judiciously urged.

Some little carelessness and inaccuracies are visible in the language of this volume; which we shall excuse ourselves from particularizing, except in one instance, at p. 21. where February and March are said to be 'a very *salutary* time of year:' but we suppose that the author means a *scarce* time, *i. e.* for green food for cattle.—A map of the county, as usual, accompanies this survey.

Mo-y.

ART. VIII. *The Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, Vol. VIII.* 4to. pp. 600. Dublin. 1802. London, Payne and Mackinlay; Price 1l. 4s. Boards.

THE contents of this volume are arranged in those departments in which the Society usually distribute their papers; and we shall continue to analyse them in the same order, commencing with the class of

SCIENCE.

Observations on the Proofs of the Huttonian Theory of the Earth, adduced by Sir James Hall, Bart. By Richard Kirwan, Esq. LL.D. F.R.S. & P.R.I.A.—In the third and fifth volumes of the Edinburgh Transactions, Sir James Hall attempted, by arguments and experiments, to invalidate some of the positions laid down by Mr. Kirwan, in his explanation of Dr. Hutton's Theory of the Earth. The present paper is therefore written with the view of examining the force of the reasoning employed by Sir James, as well as of determining the consequences fairly deducible from his experiments. Some difficulties had been started against the opinion that granite was ever in a state of fusion, from the feltspar contained in it being, though the most fusible of the two substances, found in this stone with its crystals regularly defined, while the quartz formed a confused and irregular mass, moulded on the crystals of feltspar; and Sir James replied to them by arguments which Mr. K. here endeavours to refute. As the principal circumstances, however, on which Sir James rests his opinions respecting the subject of granite, depend on some experiments on whin, we shall immediately pass on to them. Whin, it may be observed, comprehends in Scotland, grunstein, basalt, trap, wacken, and porphyry; stones in which (except the last) none of the component ingredients are found regularly crystallized. Grunstein, a compound of feltspar and hornblende, intimately mixed with each other, but imperfectly and confusedly crystallized in minute grains, was the subject of the experiments here related.

'This substance,' says the author, 'Sir James vitrified by a strong heat and subsequent rapid cooling. A fragment of the glass thus produced being introduced under a narrow muffle and heated to 21° in one minute became so soft as to yield readily to the pressure of an iron rod, but after a second minute it became quite hard though the temperature had been stationary; the substance thus hardened underwent a thorough change, it lost its vitreous character, its fracture was like that of *porcelain* (that is even) and it was fusible only in a heat of 31°. In another experiment he found this change to take place even before the glass was in perfect fusion; for while both ends of a

fragment of this glass were supported on rests of clay, it was found not to sink down between them until the heat was raised to 30°.—In another experiment he found the consolidation which he (improperly as I think) calls crystallization, to take place even while the heat was gradually increased, and the substance still so viscid as to retain the original shape of the fragments.—In another experiment where the glass was slowly cooled, its texture was found completely to resemble that of whinstone, the *fracture* was *rough*, *stony*, and *crystalline*, with a number of shining facettes interspersed through the mass, and a few crystals in the cavities produced by air bubbles.'

In order to shew that these experiments are deceitful in the conclusions to which they lead, the author compares the discriminating characters of natural whin with those of the artificial:

'1mo, The *natural* whins,' says he, 'particularly amygdaloids (vulgarly called toadstones) frequently contain calcareous spar and zeolyte; now as the former contains fixed air, and the latter a notable proportion of water, I hardly think Sir James, who professes not to agree with Dr. Hutton in all points, will allow these to have been vitrified or fused.

'2do, The *natural* whins, according to Dr. Kennedy's statement, lose five per cent. of water and other volatile matter when heated to redness. It is not said whether the artificial lose any part of their weight by such treatment, but it is plain they would not, since even the lavas of Catania and Piedemont, though of antient date, lost none, as Dr. Kennedy expressly notices, and have thus afforded an excellent criterion for distinguishing the long contested origination of these substances.

'3tio, As Sir James has neglected giving a *complete* account of the external characters of the natural whins, which were the subject of his experiments, as also of regenerated or artificial whins derived from them, and as I have not myself seen them, it is difficult for me to compare them with each other, and would indeed be impossible if some account of them had not been given by Mr. Pictet in his valuable Journal Britannique, copied into the 5th Vol. of the new Rozier's Journal, p. 313. It is the result of the examination both of the natural and artificial whins by the Society of Natural History at Geneva.

'As to the natural grunstein, No. 1. they remark that it betrays not the least mark of an igneous origin, but that the whins which Sir James produced from it had every distinctive character of a *lava*, and even of a *porous lava*.

'The basalt (or rather trapp) on which the castle of Edinburgh stands is of a compact structure; the artificial produced from it, Sir James tells us, so greatly resembles it both in colour and texture that it would be difficult or perhaps impossible to distinguish them, *but for a few minute air bubbles, distinguishable in the artificial.* Neptunists will, however, consider this as a leading character of distinction. The mineralogists of Geneva add, that the colour of the artificial is deeper, and its hardness greater than that of the natural. If the specific gravity

gravity and other characters of both were given, it is probable that other differences might be perceived. It is only in these characters that any difference can be expected, as the internal composition must be the same in both.

'Of the remaining artificial whins I can give no account, their external characters having been omitted; I cannot, however, pass over the general inferences that Sir James deduces from his experiments, namely, "that the arguments against the subterraneous fusion of whinstone, derived from its stony character, seem now to be fully refuted;" for, not to repeat what has been already said, that many of them contain substances whose existence is incompatible with that hypothesis, I must farther add that the upright state in which many of them exist, for instance, the basaltic pillars of Staffa, and of the Giants Causeway, and of many other countries, the basis they rest on, sometimes granite, sometimes gneis, sometimes coal or limestone, and the total absence of all signs of the operation of fire, forbid us to entertain any doubt of their production in the moist way. Nay, the college of Dublin now possesses fragments of basaltic pillars in which marine shells are imbedded; if such evidence can be resisted it is in vain to seek for greater.'

An Illustration and Confirmation of some Facts mentioned in an Essay on the Primitive State of the Globe (in Vol. VI. of these Transactions). By the Same.—In the essay which the present paper is intended to illustrate, the author considered it as an established fact, that the emersion of some portion of land from the primæval ocean occurred previously to the creation of fishes. The circumstance on which he rested for the proof of this fact, and which accorded with the Mosäic account of the subject, was that

'No petrifactions were found imbedded and incorporated in masses of stone in such countries as were elevated 8500 or 9000 feet above the actual level of the sea; for instance, in the great Tartarian platform and the elevated regions of Siberia, though in all inferior regions of the same extent such petrifactions were abundantly found, at least in limestones; but even in these none were found in those elevated tracts, as was proved by the testimonies of all the philosophic travellers who have traversed and examined them.—

'To repel this proof of the Mosaic account, it has been replied by the laborious, learned, and eloquent writer of the *Histoire du Monde primitif* and others, that the keen air existing in these elevated regions had long ago decomposed and consumed the shells that might have been there deposited; but as the stones still remain, it is evident that the shells incorporated in their interior must also have remained, if any such were ever contained in them.'

It is, however, asserted by Don Ulloa, in his *Mémoires Philosophiques*, and by *Gentil*, in the Mem. Par. 1771, that shells have been found in the Cordelieres at the height of 13,869 English feet above the level of the sea. That the height was

so great as is here stated, the author attempts to disprove, by the evidence of other writers; as well as from the probable inaccuracy of the barometers by which the former gentlemen made their calculation:—but, let the height be what it may, Mr. Kirwan adds,

'It is certain that these shells were deposited there after the emersion of land from the primitive ocean, and consequently by a subsequent deluge; for Don Ulloa expressly tells us, that in the same rocks in which these shells are found, *petrified wood* is also found, Mem. Philosophiques, p. 372. This wood must have grown on dry land, and must have been floated when the shells were deposited, since both are found in the same rocks. It must have been brought thither by a deluge, as no wood can at present grow there, as Don Ulloa also attests. The shells are for the most part bivalves, which geologists allow to form petrifactions of the most modern date.'

An Essay on the Declivities of Mountains. By the Same.—It is a fact in geology, established by numerous observations, that, in mountains which extend from north to south, the western flank is the steepest, and the eastern the gentlest; and that, where they run east and west, the southern declivity is the steepest, and the northern the most gentle. In this paper, the author brings forwards the principal facts in support of that deduction; and he considers it as clearly proved 'that mountains are not mere fortuitous eruptions, unconnected with transactions on the surface of the earth:' since it has been uniformly found by Foster that 'the north and north-west sides are gently covered, and connected with secondary strata, in which organic remains abound,' while the south and south-west sides are almost invariably steep.

In order to account for this nearly universal allotment of unequal declivities to opposite points, and for the greatest being directed to the west and south, and the gentlest to the east and north, Mr. K. supposes,

'1st, That all mountains were formed while covered with water.

'2d, That the earth was universally covered with water at two different æras, that of the creation, and that of the Noachian deluge.

'3d, That in the first æra we must distinguish two different periods, that which preceded the appearance of dry land, and that which succeeded the creation of fish, but before the sea had been reduced nearly to its present level; during the former, the primæval mountains were formed, and during the last, most of the secondary mountains and strata were formed.

'4th, That all mountains extend either from E. to W. or from N. to S., or in some intermediate direction between these cardinal points (!!) which need not be particularly mentioned here, as the same species of reasoning must be applied to them, as to those to whose aspect they approach most.

'These preliminary circumstances being noticed, we are next to observe that during the first æra, this vast mass of water moved in two

two general directions, at right angles with each other, the one from E. to W. which needs not to be proved, being the course of tides which still continue, but were in that ocean necessarily stronger and higher than at present: the other from N. to S. the water tending to those vast abysses then formed in the vicinity of the south pole, as shewn in my former essays. Before either motion could be propagated, a considerable time must have elapsed.

'Now the primæval mountains formed at the commencement of the first æra, and before this double direction of the waters took place, must have opposed a considerable obstacle to the motion of that fluid in the sense that crossed that of the direction of these mountains. Thus the mountains that stretch from N. to S. must have opposed the motion of the waters ftom E. to W.: this opposition, diminishing the motion of that fluid, disposed it to suffer the earthy particles with which in those early periods it must have been impregnated to crystallize, or be deposited on these eastern flanks, and particularly on those of the highest mountains, for over the lower it could easily pass; these depositions, being incessantly repeated at heights gradually diminishing as the level of the waters gradually lowered, must have rendered the eastern declivities or descents, gentle, gradual, and moderate, while the western sides receiving no such accessions from depositions must have remained steep and craggy.

'Again, the primæval mountains that run from E. to W. by opposing a similar resistance to the course of the waters from N. to S. must have occasioned similar depositions on the northern sides of these mountains against which these waters impinged, and thus smoothed them.

'Where mountains intersect each other in an oblique direction, the N. E. side of one range being contiguous to the S. W. flanks of another range, there the afflux of adventitious particles on the north-east side of the one, must have frequently extended to the S. W. side of the other, particularly if that afflux were strong and copious.'

Chemical and Mineralogical Nomenclature. By the Same.—This article is written with the intention of vindicating its author from the censure which has been thrown on him by some philosophers, for retaining a few of the old denominations, where the new names appeared to him exceptionable. He enters into a minute examination of the principles adopted by the French chemists in the formation of their nomenclature, and is of opinion that they are in many instances defective.

Description of an Apparatus for impregnating Water and other Substances strongly with Carbonic Acid Gas. By the Rev. Gilbert Austin, M.R.I.A.; with an Engraving.—In this apparatus, a condensing syringe is fixed to the tube, by which the vessel inclosing the gas is connected to that which contains the water to be impregnated. By means of this syringe, and of

valves properly disposed, the gas is forced into the latter vessel, a stop-cock is turned to prevent its escape, and the vessel is briskly agitated: which process may be repeated several times, so as to charge the water to a very high degree. This mode of impregnation may be very useful in the small way; and it is similar in principle to that which is practised with so much success by Mr. Paul of Geneva: but the apparatus of the latter is much better adapted for effecting the purpose, because it is so strong as to bear the pressure of any quantity of gas, at the same time that agitation can be conveniently and effectually applied.

Analysis of Turf-Ashes. By Lord Tullamore (Earl of Charleville), M.R.I.A.—The noble author procured from burnt turf, by means of boiling water, a saline solution, which afforded 'an abundant crop of beautiful crystals;' and afterward, on evaporating the remaining liquor to dryness, he obtained 'a saline mass in considerable quantity,' which produced a strong effect on vegetable blue: but we do not think that he is warranted in concluding, without farther experiments, that the whole or any part of the mass, thus procured, consisted of 'sulphat of soda with little or no intermixture.' From the ashes of a different bog, he obtained muriate of soda only.

A Memoir of the Mines of Glan, the Royalty of Richard Martin, Esq. By Monsieur Subrine, Engineer to the King of France.—This paper contains an account of the strata composing the mountains of Glan, and its neighbourhood, with remarks on the best method of procuring the copper ore with which they abound.

Synoptical View of the State of the Weather in Dublin in the Years 1800 *and* 1801. In two Papers. By Richard Kirwan, Esq. &c.—Each of these registers is given in the usual way, and without any remarks annexed.

Observations on Calp. By the Hon. George Knox, M.R.I.A.—One hundred parts of this substance, otherwise called the black quarry stone of Dublin, were found to contain nearly as follow:

Carbonate of lime	68
Oxyd of iron -	2
Argill - -	$7\frac{1}{2}$
Silex - -	18
Carbon and bitumen	3
Water - -	$1\frac{1}{2}$

The

The dark colour of the stone, Mr. Knox thinks, is owing to the carbon and bitumen.

Observations and Experiments undertaken with a View to determine the Quantity of Sulphur contained in Sulphuric Acid; and of this latter contained in Sulphates in general. By Richard Chenevix, F.R.S. and M.R.I.A.—In the course of some experiments made by this gentleman, he was led to doubt the accuracy of the usual statements of the quantity of sulphur contained in sulphuric acid, and sulphates in general. He therefore took some pains to ascertain the point; and the result of his investigation is detailed in the present ingenious paper.—By distilling purified sulphur with strong nitric acid, in a proper apparatus, till the whole of it was dissolved, and then pouring nitrate of barytes on the united liquors, from every part of the apparatus, he obtained sulphate of barytes; 100 parts of which, he found by calculation from the quantity originally employed, contained 14.5 of sulphur. He then ascertained, by a series of experiments, that 23.5 is the proportion of sulphuric acid in 100 parts of sulphate of barytes; and by comparing 14.5, the quantity of sulphur, with 23.5, the quantity of sulphuric acid in the same portions of sulphate of barytes, he was able to determine that 100 parts of real sulphuric acid contain 61.5 of sulphur, and in course 38.5 of oxygen, the other ingredient necessary to constitute it.

In a paper of Guyton, in the *Annales de Chimie*, quoted by the author, the proportion of sulphuric acid in sulphate of barytes is very near to that which is here mentioned.

Meteorological Observations made at Londonderry in the Year 1800. By William Patterson, M.D. and M.R.I.A.—This paper contains three meteorological tables; which are followed by remarks on the state of the weather, a comparison of the climate of Ireland, as it now is, with its nature as described 150 years ago by Dr. Gerard Boate; and some observations on the advantages which might accrue to agricultural and medical science, from a more particular attention to meteorology. The author recommends it to the Dublin Society, to institute a professorship of this branch, 'on the same wise and enlarged principle that they have established one of botany, and another of chemistry and mineralogy.'

Yell.

[*To be continued.*]

ART.

ART. IX. *A Journal of the Forces which sailed from the Downs in April* 1800, on a secret Expedition, under the Command of Lieutenant-General Pigot, till their Arrival in Minorca; and continued through all the subsequent Transactions of the Army under the Command of the Right Hon. General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K.B., in the Mediterranean and Egypt; and the latter Operations under the Command of Lieutenant-General Lord Hutchinson, K.B., to the Surrender of Alexandria: With a particular Account of Malta, during the Time it was subject to the British Government. By Æneas Anderson, Lieut. 40th Regiment. Illustrated by Engravings. 4to. 2l. 2s. Boards. Debrett. 1802.

THE title of this work so fully expresses its scope, that we shall have no other task than to speak of its execution. The important events to which it relates are described in a very plain and satisfactory manner, and the public documents are generally so incorporated with the author's narrative as to constitute a principal part of it.

After a short account of Minorca, Mr. Anderson enters into many particulars respecting the blockade of Cadiz: but he seems unable to account for the determination of our commanders to abandon all active enterprise against that place. The destination of our troops seems, indeed, to have been long undecided. After this time, the Journal contains nothing but ordinary occurrences, (among which we may venture to include the occasional loss of a good dinner, which is feelingly lamented by the author,) till the arrival of the army at Malta. The description of this celebrated island, now become an object unusually interesting to the English public, forms the most entertaining and important part of the book. To insert the whole account of its stupendous collection of fortresses, however, would occupy too great a share of our pages; and we must content ourselves with extracting some detached passages, which will at once gratify our readers, and afford a fair specimen of Mr. Anderson's powers of composition:

'The ancient castle of St. Angelo is situated in the centre of the grand harbour, and rises from a rock that protrudes, as it were, into the water. It faces the mouth of the harbour, and, having four tiers of powerful artillery from the level of the sea to the top of the works, with a battery of mortars, it may be said irresistibly to command it. So that, independent of St. Elmo and Ricasoli, this part of the castle is capable of sending to instant destruction a ship of any force that should presume to come within its reach, as one hundred pieces of very heavy cannon could be made to bear upon her.

'This castle is situated on a rocky peninsula, and may be considered, both from art and nature, as an impregnable fortress. It has

has only one entrance, which is by a draw-bridge from the town of Vittoriosa; and there are three covered gates of prodigious strength which at once guard and form the passage. It contains several handsome buildings, with barracks for a considerable body of troops, and accommodation for officers. From its elevated situation it overlooks the greater part of Vittoriosa, with the towns of Bormula and Isola.

'On passing the draw-bridge you enter Vittoriosa, which is built in a very irregular manner, and rises gradually from the water-side in a state of acclivity to the distance of about half a mile. The houses are of stone, and equally elegant and commodious; the streets, or rather lanes, for they deserve no other appellation, are narrow and irregular. It contains a fine palace, and two handsome churches, which are decorated with paintings and sculptures. There is also a very neat and cleanly market-place in the centre of the town; in the middle of which appears, on a pedestal, a fine statue in bronze of the Grand-Master who laid the foundations of the place. Every part of it is well inhabited, and fountains of water continually refresh it.

'The town of Bormula is separated from it by a draw-bridge over a ditch about twenty feet wide, and between fifty and sixty in depth, which, like those we have already described, is dug out of the solid rock. The fortifications of this place bear a proportionable degree of strength to those which have been successively mentioned; but are of no apparent utility, as the principal entrance is so secured and defended as to bid defiance to any attack. The place of parade, which is a very fine one, is on the top of an extensive range of storehouses erected on the quay. On ascending them, a very noble statue in bronze presents itself, representing one of the Grand Masters of a former period: but so numerous are these commemorating testimonials of regard and veneration for the distinguished persons who have enjoyed and dignified the supreme command of this island, that unless it were in my power to give a chronological account of them, it must be equally tedious and uninteresting to continue a repetition of the memorials erected to their honour.

'This town, like Vittoriosa, is built on the slope of an hill, and displays an equal irregularity. There is only one spacious street; the rest are narrow, and without any kind of pavement. The houses, however, being regularly built, present a pleasing appearance. The barracks for troops are handsome and spacious; and frequent fountains pour forth their cooling and salubrious streams. Adjoining to the quay is an excellent and commodious market-place, where butcher's meat, poultry, vegetables and fruits, are supplied in ample abundance.

'This place is very well inhabited; it contains several churches, whose exterior appearance and interior decoration mark the munificence and piety of their founders and succeeding patrons. The streets both here and in Vittoriosa are indebted to the wooden images of Madonas and Saints for their illumination. At every corner, one of these figures appears in a kind of alcove, with a glass door or lattice work to preserve it, and thus being lighted up every night, they become very useful to the inhabitants.'

The

Floriana, and La Valetta, which bore the principal brunt of our attacks during the siege, are thus described:

'Floriana is connected with, but is situated on, an eminence without the walls of La Valetta; it consists of several neat, pleasant, but unpaved streets, and commands a magnificent prospect of the Mediterranean sea, with the entrance of the grand harbour, and its predominant circumstances. Of the two churches which this place can boast, one, which is situated in the middle of it, presents a large architectural form, with a steeple; while the other, which is placed close to the fortifications that overlook the harbour, has no exterior claim to attention.

'This suburb is fortified in every direction, and in such a manner as to bid defiance, if the works are properly manned, to the combined efforts of Europe. Such are the succession of its batteries, the depth of its ditches, the number and calibre of its artillery, and the extent of its mines, that all attack must be rendered fruitless. Before an enemy could reach La Valetta, he must storm five separate fortifications, of such strength as to be separately impregnable.

'In this place General Pigot had the use of the Grand Master's garden, which is very large, and surrounded with a stone wall of twenty feet in height: it was very productive in the fruits and flowers of the climate, and was maintained by General Pigot in the best possible order; so that if the Grand Master should be restored to the situation which he so disgracefully abandoned, he will find his gardens in a very advanced state of improvement and beauty.

'On the west side of Floriana, barracks for several regiments appear in the form of a quadrangle, refreshed by a central fountain. After passing through the Port Bomb, which is the entrance from the country, and is defended by a deep ditch, a draw-bridge, and covered archway, you come to another passage of the same description, and having passed that, the main guard presents itself, having a fountain in front of it, which is crowned with a small marble statue; it is situated in the centre of a small neat square, whose surrounding piazzas are employed as a market-place for fruit and vegetables. Almost every house has its garden, which produces abundance of grapes, oranges, figs, and other fruits.

'This district, in common with every other, was experiencing the advantages to be derived from the wealth, the jurisprudence, and liberal spirit of the British people. Several new houses were erecting in this place, and other improvements advancing, when the account of the peace arrived. The Maltese were happy beyond expression under the British government, and they did not appear to have a wish but for the continuance of it.

'The entrance from Floriana to La Valetta is by a draw-bridge thrown over a ditch of ninety feet in depth, and scooped out of the solid rock: the bridge is flanked on either side by a powerful battery, which no force could resist, even supposing it to be practicable for an enemy to make so near an approach to the city: to the bridge succeeds an archway of fifty feet in length, hewn out of the rock, on one side of which, and formed in the same manner, is a guard house

and officer's room; this gateway is called the Porta Reale, and gives its name to the street that proceeds from it: this stupendous archway supports a small neat house, that commands the whole of Floriana, and a considerable distance beyond it, which is probably intended as a place of observation for the General or Commandant, as occasion may require. On the wings of this building are batteries of immense strength, which join the walls that enclose the city: they are mounted with cannon, and have a commanding front over the Floriana, and the country adjacent.

'The gate is supported by two cavaliers of ninety feet in height, bomb-proof, and inaccessible, except by one small narrow passage. They are of uniform appearance, and answer in size and shape to each other. These large magazines of powder and shot are so constructed that no accident can possibly occur to them, as they are formed in the solid rock, and consequently superior to the annoyance of shot or bombs. It appears to me that these two formidable fortifications were originally two immense clumps of rock, and having been shaped down, were afterwards encased with walling. But whether my conjecture is well or ill-founded, they present, in every point, a most tremendous appearance, as they command, in all directions, every fortification in Valetta and its dependencies, with a large extent of the sea, Civita Vecchia, and a considerable portion of the island; as well from their lofty position, as their own architectural elevation.

'These cavaliers are square buildings, their roofs consisting of platforms, laid with broad stones, with a parapet wall of about four feet high, mounted on all sides with heavy cannon, though there is ample space for a much greater number, if any emergency should require such an addition.

'The city of La Valetta is built on a majestic and lofty peninsula that extends from N. E. to S. W. and the following streets run in that direction:

'1. Strada Reale, which is the principal street of the city, and extends from the Porta Reale to the castle of St. Elmo.
'2. Strada Stretta, which is immediately on its left, but very narrow.
'3. Strada di Forni.
'4. Strada di Mercanti, which is parallel with the above, and lies on the right of Strada Reale.
'5. Strada di Levante, which runs in the same direction, and faces the line wall over the Marino Quay.

'The principal streets, which cross those already mentioned, are,

'1. Strada di Mezzodi.
'2. Strada Britannica.

'Two insignificant passages intervene between the latter street and the church of Saint John; to the right of which there is a street that descends to the Marino Gate; and on the left, another that stretches on to the line wall facing Fort Manuel.

'3. Strado del Teatro.
'4. Strada San Christofero.
'5. Strada San Dominico.
'6. Strada Ospedale.

'These are the principal streets of La Valetta, with their natural denominations; the rest do not merit any particular notice.

'The French, while they were in possession of Malta, not only endeavoured to republicanize the Maltese, but to give republican names to the very streets: they, therefore, blotted out the ancient titles, and substituted such as accorded with their political views, and the order of things in France. The latter were, however, immediately erased when the British troops took possession of the island, and the old denominations restored, to the great satisfaction and delight of the inhabitants.

'In the Strada Reale, or the principal street, there is a very handsome fountain, whose springs are suffered to flow from sun-rise to sun-set, and is appropriated solely to the purpose of watering horses.

'Near the fountain is an arsenal of ordnance stores of every kind, and a large armourer's shop, where we employed a great number of artisans both British and Maltese in the repair of arms, &c. It also contains shot of every description, and cartridges prepared for use, together with all the implements necessary for cannon, both for land and sea-service. To these may be added, immense quantities of ammunition for the service of infantry.

'The Maltese appeared to-be very well acquainted with the mechanical trades, and formed the major part of our corps of artificers; in which situation they proved themselves equal to the nicer and more difficult branches of their respective professions. The arsenal surrounds no inconsiderable quadrangle, and is bomb-proof in every part where that precaution is necessary.

'The Maltese workmen were superintended by a Maltese petty officer, who was under the direction and subject to the controul of Mr. Greenfield, the storekeeper, well known for his indefatigable and zealous conduct in the public service. They wore the ordnance uniform, and were attached to that department.

'Beyond the arsenal and Strada di Mezzodi, two very handsome churches present themselves to the view: they are opposite to each other, and form a part of the street. One of them has a tower filled with bells, which are continually chiming, to the great annoyance of those who live in their immediate vicinity.

'In this street, and beyond the church, is a very large hotel, which belonged to one of the knights; but its spacious apartments and fine garden were now applied to the purposes of government. It had sometimes been employed as a magazine for army stores and cloathing; and was occasionally used as barracks for soldiers.

'At a small distance is the magnificent church of St. John, which stands in a square, and forms a central point of view to four streets. It is a large plain building, without any striking display of exterior ornament. In the front of the church the area is paved with large flat stones, to the extent of thirty or forty feet; and is inclosed by a small parapet wall with pillars, on the outside of which there is a paved footway for passengers, raised a few inches above the common causeway.

'The west front of the church presents two towers, containing bells of uncommon magnitude, which continually announce the un-

ceasing ceremonials of public worship in the building beneath them. The first stroke of the bell from St. John's church, is the general signal for the bells of all the other churches in La Valetta and its dependencies: the whole producing a kind of wide-extended chime, which has rather a pleasing effect.

'The interior form and decorations of this church are truly magnificent. The roof, which is finely painted, is supported by a double row of superb columns, about thirty feet in height, and are of a beautiful dark green marble, with black veins. To the right of the altar was a stately throne of crimson velvet, richly decorated with embroidered ornaments; the principal of which are the arms of the order. This was the seat of the Grand Master. The altar, which is profusely enriched, consists of a semi-circular dome, and is lighted from the top.

'In a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary, a golden lamp, of large size and great value, had been long suspended by a chain of the metal. It was said to have been formerly brought from Rhodes, and had ever been considered by the people with the most profound veneration. It was considered of so much importance by Bonaparte, that he ordered it to be removed to the place of his residence.'

Respecting the manners of the people, Mr. Anderson observes:

'Of the domestic life and private manners of the higher orders of the Maltese, I shall not pretend to give a particular description, as our communications with them were confined to public assemblies. We were continually invited to balls during the winter, when dancing, with a profusion of confectionary and Sicilian wines, composed the entertainment. To their dinners or suppers we were never invited, which did not, however, appear to proceed from an inhospitable disposition, but arose more probably from the narrow state of their finances, as an income equal to four hundred pounds sterling was the largest in the island, except that of the bishop.

'The Maltese are a very industrious people, being educated to labour and active employment from their cradles; nor are they ever seen in a state of inactivity, but when they are engaged in the duties of their religion, which, however, must appear to the more enlightened professors of Christianity to occupy too large a portion of their time.

'The staple manufacture of Malta is the cotton which it produces. It is both white and of a dingy yellow; but principally of the latter colour. Of this material they weave a narrow cloth of about half an ell wide, which has no variety but of plain and striped.

'The number of people which are employed in this fabric is very considerable, as almost every house contains a loom, and every loom is in continual occupation. The women, as well as the men, are employed in its several branches, from the teasing of the cotton to the completion of the piece. They may, indeed, be frequently seen alternately engaged in teasing, spinning, and weaving. They spin both with the spindle and the wheel, and the female manufacturers

are generally heard to cheer their toil with airs of a pleasing and sprightly melody.

'The rearing of poultry forms no inconsiderable branch of trade among the middling and lower classes of the people. The quantity of fowls and eggs which this domestic commerce produces is incredible. At almost every door a large wicker basket contains a cackling family, which is only for a short time of the day permitted to range in liberty: as they are accustomed to this state of confinement from the time that they are hatched, they feel an attachment to it, and a kind of chirping noise from their owners calls them back with eager haste to their wicker habitations. This useful traffic does not interfere with, and adds its profits to, those of other occupations.

'The wood-cutters form a peculiar description of hardy and useful labourers. The only fuel in this island is wood, which is brought from Sicily and Naples; and as it is of a very hard contexture, it becomes an act of necessity to split or cut it into small pieces for firing. These men, who are more numerous than may be imagined, are armed with an axe and a saw, with a chissel and a wedge; and thus equipped, they pass through the streets, making known their want of employment to the inhabitants by a certain kind of cry peculiar to their occupation. It is a long and laborious exertion of their art which gains them a sum equal to eight-pence of our money.

'The fishery also employs a considerable number of this industrious people. The Maltese are very expert both with the net and the line, as it appears from the plenty as well as variety of fish with which the markets abound.

'There is another occupation which gives bread to a great number of the Maltese, and is that of selling goat's milk and butter. In the morning and evening the milkmen drive their goats through the streets, and stop to milk them at the houses of their respective customers. Of this useful animal there are great numbers in every part of Malta, and, like the poultry already mentioned, are seen as living attendants at the doors of the houses.

'The Scripture image of the ox that treadeth out the corn is realized in this island. It is a practice which probably derives its origin from the Arabs, who formed a principal part of its former inhabitants, and an intermixture of whose language is still perceptible in the vulgar tongue of Malta. The ears of grain being strewed on a flat piece of ground, cattle are then introduced, yoked together, who are led to and fro till the grain is separated from the husk.

'There is, perhaps, no country in the world where its inhabitants have such an upright carriage of their figure as those of Malta. This graceful circumstance proceeds from the peculiar manner in which they direct the shape of their infant children. No sooner is a child born, than it is placed between two pieces of board, which reach from the feet to the neck, and are attached to the body of the infant with rollers of linen, but in such a manner as not to produce pain or impede the circulation. In this manner the Maltese children are universally treated, till they are able to walk; and thus they acquire that erect gait which never forsakes them.

'That

'That there is no other provision for the poor than the benevolence of individuals, appears from the great number of beggars which infest the streets. This indeed has been a complaint which travellers have frequently made in the great towns of Roman Catholic countries. Among these mendicants, the proportion of those in a state of blindness is very great; a circumstance which must proceed from the sandy surface of the island, and the continual and glaring reflection of an ardent sun on such a white mass of rock.

'In La Valetta there are a great many two-wheeled carriages for hire, which are numbered as in London. They are of a very clumsy construction, of a square shape, and large enough to contain six persons. With this unwieldy machine, and so loaded, one horse or a mule will go at the rate of four or five miles an hour. The latter, however, are more generally used, as they are remarkably large and strong in this island. For about twopence a person may be taken from one end of the city to the other; while for a little tour in the country, or the use for a whole day, a dollar is considered as very ample satisfaction. The driver uses neither whip nor spur, but keeps a sharp nail in his hand, with which he pricks the side of the animal in order to quicken his motions. He runs along by his side with the reins in one hand and a swinging kind of movement of the other. These drivers are seldom seen either with shoes or stockings but on an holiday. Their general dress is a pair of loose trowsers, a coarse shirt, a waistcoat, round which they tie a long, red, worsted sash, and a woollen cap. On their festivals some little addition is made to their dress, in the way of decoration, according as their finances will allow them.

'There is a peculiarity in the laws of Malta, by which no debt is recoverable which is not formed by special contract in writing; and unless the written obligation is produced, no process will issue against the debtor. My own experience, in the character of treasurer to the regimental mess, gave me this insight into the jurisprudence of this island; when, from the want of this formality, the cook was justified in refusing the repayment of seventy or eighty dollars which I had advanced him.

'There is but one cemetery in La Valetta, which is chiefly allotted for the poor people, foreigners and heretics. It is situated in the Floriana part of the city, close to the line, and surrounded by a wall of about sixteen feet in height, which is furnished within with several rows of stone shelves, containing the sculls of those who have been buried there during several centuries. They are arranged with a curious regularity, and might be considered as decorating the inclosure of a grand anatomical theatre.

'Though all ranks of people are devotees, and minutely attentive to the multiplied superstitions of the church, yet chastity does not appear to maintain its due rank among the virtues of their religion. It certainly is not to be found in this island; while prostitution, from the familiar and open manner in which it is carried on, both by married as well as single women, and with the knowledge of their husbands and relations, is not, unless attended with some peculiar degree of enormity, considered as a crime.'

This part of the volume is illustrated by a large plan of the harbour and town of Malta, and by six views of the fortifications, from different points. We cannot highly praise these engravings as works of art, but they appear to be faithful representations of the objects, excepting that some of the prints are deficient in drawing and perspective.

The Bay of Marmorice is described, and a chart of it is added.

As we have already presented to our readers, from different publications, ample accounts of the landing of the British army in Egypt, and of the battle of the 21st of March, we shall not repeat those particulars from the details which Mr. Anderson has in course inserted. The subsequent operations of the army, until the surrender of Cairo, and the evacuation of Egypt by the French, are also related: in which part of the work, a very liberal use is made of official papers and dispatches.

We have received, on the whole, considerable amusement and information from this performance; and we recommend it to the attention of our readers. Mr. Anderson first introduced himself to the public on the occasion of Lord Macartney's celebrated embassy to China, his narrative of which was reviewed in our xviith volume, N. S.; and his present labours will probably find an equal welcome.

Besides the plates which we have already mentioned, we find a view of Cadiz at the distance of five miles.

Fer.r

ART. X. *An Account of the Discovery and Operation of a New Medicine for Gout.* 8vo. pp. 194. 4s. sewed. Johnson. 1803.

THE short statement which is given by the author of this pamphlet will make our readers acquainted with the history of this new medicine, and we shall therefore quote it: but we must confess that, as he has thought it proper to keep the name of his remedy secret, we should have deemed it unnecessary to take any notice of his publication, had it not been sanctioned by the names of two physicians.

'The writer is in middle life, that is, in his forty-fifth year, unconnected with business; and, like many others in the same situation, he has been a victim to the demon of gout; whose very dalliance is torture, and whose frequent embraces are more odious than death. But, by drinking the extracted juice of a ripe fruit, he found the effect to be a gradual diminution of the extreme sensibility of the inflamed part, and this perceptible in a few hours; the angry swelling more tardily receded: yet not so slowly but that in a few days he found himself enabled to ride and walk; and in a short time his

his health was completely restored. The medicine seemed to effect as much in so many days, as nature or rather the passive plan would have done in so many weeks; and the constitution remained quite unimpaired by the attack.

'By this statement he is aware that he has rendered himself obnoxious to the question that will here surely arise in the mind of all the well-informed sufferers by gout, as well as in that of their physicians, viz. "*Whence this hardiness to tamper with the thread that suspends the sword?*" And he feels it incumbent upon him to attempt to answer it, that the idea of a rash tamperer may not accompany the reader through the subsequent narrative.

'In the retrospect of his life, he finds that he had an early aptitude to attempt to discriminate some of the more obvious qualities of vegetable substances by the appearances they exhibited to the eye: so much so that he could, very generally, resolve for himself, and point out to his comrades, that such a tree bore sweet or sour apples, &c. by the configuration of the leaf, or the twig. He will not here stop to speculate on the cause of this propensity, or on the degree of perfection which it attained. He is satisfied that it has been the source of much gratification to him; though he has sometimes been sharply bitten for the moment, in consequence of the urgent desire he always felt, to taste the fruit, or the leaf, or the bark, of any new, or untried plant, that he chanced to meet with. And it will be equally fruitless to lament that his destinies have forbidden this inclination to be cultivated in the genial soil of medical and botanic science. Nor will he presume now to inquire whether nature, in her ample magazine, have provided an adequate cure for the casual evils that are scattered in the paths of life: or, if the conscious appetite, naturally, embraces *these* with avidity—while, with disdain, it rejects the deadly. For, he thinks it sufficient to the present purpose to state, that fourteen years ago, when under the affliction of an acute rheumatism, he first tasted the fruit above mentioned. Its unforbidding flavour prompted him to a larger trial than he usually bestowed on unknown, or "forbidden fruit." The operation this had on him did not make him fancy that "forthwith up to the clouds" he "flew," but it soon inclined him to surmise that his disorder had abated of its virulence in consequence of it. The fruit was again resorted to; and his pains almost immediately subsided on the second trial. Some six months afterwards, the same enemy again took the field. The preserved juice of this fruit was his only auxiliary, and his considerate resource. His foe was soon dislodged—and has never again intruded on his repose. By this experience, he was convinced that the fruit was not deleterious—and he knew, before, that the "birds of the air" fed on it greedily.

'At the age of between thirty and forty he became subject to gout. In the summer of 1798, he was attacked with a fit of extreme severity. The sufferings which this brings on will need no comment to those that have felt the pangs occasioned by this obdurate intruder: while those more favoured, who have never suffered by its baleful depredations, will be unable to conceive its tortures, even by means of the happiest pencil and the most vivid colouring. Though

pretty well aware that the faculty could not relieve him, yet the pain was so extreme, and the inflammation so high, that it seemed like indiscretion not to obtain their advice. A practitioner * of good repute, visited him three mornings successively: and with the frankness that marks an honourable profession, told him, that it was not in his power to do him any good—that, though the fit was severe, it had no alarming symptoms—and that patience was all he should prescribe. Left in this distressing situation, the remedy formerly used for rheumatism occurred to his recollection. "He tasted," (though warily at first,) and he was not disappointed. The following night he slept considerably, which he believes would have been impossible under ordinary cases of the paroxysm: and in the morning felt very little pain, though his feet had every appearance of ardent gout. This happy effect induced him to continue the medicine to the complete removal of the fit: and it will, he hopes, be sufficient to counterbalance all idea of indiscriminate rashness that the *coup d'œil* might have excited.'

We should have expected, from a philanthropist, an immediate publication of the nature and preparation of a remedy thus gifted: but the author has preferred a different course:

'To prevent unfair trials, and prejudiced or fabricated reports; and that the medicine may be withheld, until its utility shall be fully established under the strict guardianship of medical caution and experience, it has been thought best that it should, for the present, remain under the controul of a few practitioners in different quarters of the kingdom. Two are already in full possession of a knowledge of the remedy, and the mode of administration. A quantity has been lately forwarded to a practitioner of great eminence, at Liverpool. When a few others are fixed upon in convenient situations, of which the public will be duly apprized, a sufficient opportunity, it is hoped, will be afforded for that part of the faculty and the public, which shall feel interested in having the pretensions of this remedy ascertained, to satisfy themselves completely on that point. It is the discoverer's wish, that as many persons in and out of the profession, as possible, should witness the success of the new treatment. But there is indeed another, and an insurmountable reason for the restriction. The stock in hand will be sufficient for the fullest demand of six or eight physicians in the fullest practice and the most favourably situated for attending gouty patients: but by no means adequate to a promiscuous administration of it; which it is feared, would dissipate the medicine, without maturing the experience that would lead to a satisfactory decision of its merits.'

Several cases are added, to prove the efficacy of the medicine: though, coming from an anonymous author, they lose most of their weight. From this remark, however, we must except Mr. Bridge's case, communicated by Mr. Luscombe.

'* Mr. John Causer, Stourbridge, Worcestershire.'

A quan-

A quantity of this medicine had been placed in Dr. Bradley's hands, the result of whose experience with it is thus given in a letter to the author:

'1. That the medicine is safe and innocent in the doses in which you recommend it. This point I ascertained on first receiving a supply of it from you in May 1801; by taking it myself, and also by administering it to patients labouring under acute rheumatism; in which cases it always alleviated the pain, without producing any disagreeable effects on the constitution *.

'2. Having observed how often the real merit and virtues of a valuable remedy are obscured or frustrated, by the recommenders extending its uses too widely; I became desirous of ascertaining the description of cases in which the good effects of your medicine could be most certainly predicted. This inquiry led me into an opinion that regular, acutely inflammatory, and painful attacks of gout, were the cases to which its use should generally be confined: as in these I had never seen it fail to produce the desired relief. On the contrary, when the constitution is exhausted by years, intemperance, and disease; when the joints are become rigid, or the organization of them materially changed; when the functions of the stomach, also, are nearly abolished, and the gout makes its assaults upon that organ or the head only; I thought it might injure your discovery to recommend it under such slender hope of success. For these reasons I have been, perhaps, more cautious than many other practitioners might have thought necessary; and have seldom advised the use of your medicine, except in inflammatory and painful cases of gout attacking the feet, knees, hands, &c.

'There is, however, a very common state of the disease, and in this state it constitutes perhaps one of the greatest miseries of life. I mean the wandering, irregular and uncertain gout. This attacks the sufferer at no regular periods, nor in any certain parts; but sometimes in the knees, elbows, shoulders, loins, stomach, or head; and has no certain course or duration. The slightest irregularity in exercise or diet, or unpleasant news, is sufficient to induce a paroxysm; so that the sufferer is kept in a state of perpetual anxiety and apprehension. To be able to reduce this form of the disease, which is perpetual misery, to regular annual paroxysms, which might in general leave to the patient eleven months of vigorous health; ought to be esteemed no inconsiderable degree of cure. I have seen a successful case of this kind. The gentleman is engaged in an active line of business, in Westminster. Three or four additional miles of walking, a late hour, a few extraordinary glasses of wine, or a slight anxiety about his business or his family, would bring on one of his half-formed fits.

'Observing the commencement of a paroxysm about the beginning of last December, which time I consider as the *regular* gouty sea-

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'* I also saw the case of Mrs. Tooke, which I understand you intend to publish, and in which the general health of the patient has been astonishingly improved by the occasional use of the medicine.'

son,

son, I advised him to nurse the paroxysm, and by a few glasses of Madeira or hock, to endeavour to bring on the regular inflammation in the extremities. He succeeded, and the violence of the pain, seconded by my encouragement, overcame his scruples about the danger of tampering with gout, and he was relieved by your remedy in about thirty hours.'

About half of the pamphlet is occupied by observations on this medicine, from the pen of Dr. Beddoes; who details several cases in which he thinks it has proved of considerable service.

We shall be extremely glad if the agreeable prospects held out in this work should be realized: but frequent disappointments, on similar occasions, have rendered us rather slow of belief. We recollect the noise made by the high temporary repute of Mrs. Stevens's solvent for the stone; and our readers must remember the strong testimonies urged in behalf of those rheumatic remedies which are now entirely superseded. We shall, however, reserve our judgment till the name of the medicine is declared, when the general experience of the Faculty will speedily decide on the real merits of this supposed discovery. The only indications at present afforded, respecting the preparation employed, are that it is a spirituous tincture, almost as strong as Madeira, and that the vegetable from which it is prepared has not found a place in any pharmacopœia.

We are very desirous of being cured of our scepticism, by seeing many of our worthy friends cured of their gout,—either by this or by any other tincture.

Fer.

MONTHLY CATALOGUE,

For MAY, 1803.

MILITARY.

Art. 11. *Military Antiquities respecting a History of the English Army,* from the Conquest to the present Time. By Francis Grose, Esq. F.A.S. A new Edition, with material Additions and Improvements. 4to. 2 Vols. Large Paper, 6 Guineas; small Paper, 4l. 4s. Boards. Egerton, Kearsley, &c.

SINCE our last notice of Captain Grose's Military Antiquities *, he has paid the great debt of human nature; and in him the world lost a man of discriminating mind, and of indefatigable research, attended by uncommon modesty. It will, however, be some consolation to congenial lovers of antiquarian pursuits, to find, by this posthumous edition of one of his most valuable works, that his diligent spirit has not died with him. The present editor observes that

* Rev. vol. lxxv. p. 203. and vol. lxxix. pp. 329. 415.

'The

'The principal defect of the last edition was the want of arrangement and method, which caused a certain degree of confusion, and made the work seem void of chronological order. This the editor has endeavoured to remedy in the present edition, by a division of the whole into distinct chapters. Some errors, which will unavoidably find their way into every original work, have been corrected; and the history, which in no part reached later than 1785, has been brought down to the year 1800.

'It was not the wish of the editor to add to the author's researches into antiquities, which are already so ample.

'The period between the year when the author left off, and that to which the work is now brought, is but a short one; yet in those fifteen years our military institutions have undergone very material changes. Where the new regulations partake too much of detail, the reader, after some slight notice in the text, will often find them in the appendix; and to this part of the book the editor has thought it proper to assign some articles, that were rather too prolix in the last edition. Some other parts are compressed, the editor trusts, without injury to the author, and he is sure with advantage to the reader.

'This compression has enabled the publisher to add to the work the treatise on ancient armour and weapons, which was written about the same time by the author; so that both are now comprehended in two quarto volumes.'

In the additions and new arrangement, the editor has shewn attention and judgment. Yet we must repeat our former remark, that a great part of the *Treatise on Ancient Armour* * is copied from details which the author had before given in his *Military Antiquities*. The work therefore still wants compression, which might be easily attained by consolidating the two subjects.

A few minute remarks have occurred to us in looking over these volumes, which we shall annex for occasional use at any future opportunity.

Under the article *Banneret*, (p. 180, vol. i.) should we not have had an account of the revival of that order of knighthood, in the present Sir Henry Trollope, of the royal navy?

The Duke of Richmond and Marquis Townshend have each twice filled the office of Master-General of the Ordnance, but they appear only once in the succession, p. 207, vol. i.

There is a contradiction in the definition of *close order*, pp. 350 and 351, vol. i.

The note in page 360, vol. i. on the term *volley*, is fallacious: which is the more to be regretted, because it is intended to correct an error which it rather creates.

One or two omissions and errors occur in the references: but, considering the number of the plates, it is rather surprising that the mistakes are so few.

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* See Rev. vol. lxxv. p. 460.

Art.

RELIGIOUS.

Art. 12. *Reflections on the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ;* and on the probable Consequences of a public Exhibition of his Ascension; which some think necessary to the Credibility of the Fact. By John Bigland. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Williams. 1803.

This pamphlet may be considered as a reply to Mr. Paine's objection to the credibility of the Ascension of Christ. The author is ingenious, but diffuse, and displays much more geographical science than the subject absolutely required.—In the following passage, the reader will find the substance of the argument; or the general conclusions from Mr. Bigland's reasoning:

'That no transaction, however public, no spectacle, however conspicuous, in whatever part of the world it might be exhibited, could, by any known operation of physical or moral causes, come to the knowledge of all mankind: That as the ascension of Christ could not have been visible to all men, it seems perfectly consistent with the Divine wisdom and justice, that the inhabitants of Jerusalem and its vicinity should be deprived of an indulgence which all nations could not enjoy, and of which they had, by the whole tenor of their conduct, rendered themselves of all men, the most unworthy: That the actual effects of Christ's mission have not been materially different from, nor much inferior in magnitude, permanency, and extent, to those which, by the most probable conjecture, we may suppose would have been produced by the most public exhibition of his ascension: That if this interesting event had been accompanied by "public and ocular demonstration, like the ascension of a balloon," as Mr. Paine expresses it, even in that case, Christianity could not have been propagated in the world by any other means than by an apostolic mission, and the instrumentality of preaching; and consequently,—That a public exhibition of the ascension was in no wise necessary to prove the Divine authority of the Christian revelation; especially as the subsequent propagation and establishment of Christianity, in direct opposition to all human power and policy, and by means apparently so inadequate, is a phænomenon which has no parallel in the history of the world, a permanent miracle, incessantly operating through a series of ages, and of far greater weight, as well as of a nature less ambiguous, less susceptible of illusion, and far less liable to be misunderstood than any single miracle, however wonderful in its nature, and however public in its performance.'

The pamphlet concludes with a general and impressive view of the evidences of Christianity.

Moy

Art. 13. *An Help in Devotion:* more especially in the Sacred Work of Retirement, and Employment in the Closet: Being the New Testament considered with a View to what every Chapter may furnish as proper to assist Christians in their daily Devotion. By the late Rev. Samuel Bolde, Rector of Steeple cum Tyneham, Dorsetshire. Second Edition. 8vo. pp. 220. Printed at Sherborne. 1801.

The

The first edition of this manuel of piety was published in the year 1736, and was composed by the author from the commendable motive of rendering himself useful to Christians, when old age and infirmities had incapacitated him for the public services of the Church. His object was to furnish, to those who were in the daily habit of reading the Scriptures, a prayer adapted to the contents of each chapter. The present editor, Mr. Samuel Goadby, the printer, of Sherborne, having met with a copy of this *Help in Devotion* on a stall, was induced, by the satisfaction which it afforded him, to print a second edtion of it; and he will thus no doubt be the means of extending a similar satisfaction to others. Mo-y.

Art. 14. *The Eternity of Hell Torments indefensible:* Being an Examination of several Passages in Dr. Ryland's Sermon, intitled "The First Lye Refuted." In a Series of Letters to a Friend. By Richard Wright. 8vo. 1s. Vidler.

We have not seen the sermon on which this Examiner comments, nor do the extracts here adduced incline us to wish for it. The Laic has assumed more amiable and defensible ground than the *Christian* divine, and maintains a doctrine more consonant with the mercy and justice of God.—How long will the Ministers of Christ have a seeming pleasure in representing the Deity as inflicting, and their frail fellow beings as enduring, eternal torments? Such a doctrine cannot make any part of the contents of a revelation truly divine. We find it not in our Gospel. D.o

Art. 15. *Diatessaron: seu integra Historia Dom. Nostri Jesû Christi Latinè, &c. in Usum Scholarum. Opera & Studio* T. Thirlwall, A.M. 12mo. 3s. Boards. Rivingtons.

In this Latin translation of the Diatessaron lately published by Professor White *, the version in general adopted is that of Castellio; although, where the editor regarded his phrases, as they sometimes are, as forced and affected, he has had recourse to Beza, Tremellius, and the Vulgate.—The publication will perhaps be of use to those who, in reading the Greek, are occasionally induced to consult a translation; and especially to those into whose hands it may be proper to put this work, before they have attained a knowlege of the Greek language. Man.s

Art. 16. *A short History of the Antient Israelites;* with an Account of their Manners, Customs, Laws, Polity, Religion, Sects, Arts and Trades, Division of Time, Wars, Captivities, &c. Written originally in French by the Abbé Fleury, much enlarged from the Apparatus Biblicus of Père Lamy, and corrected and improved throughout. By A. Clarke. 12mo. 4s. Boards. Baynes. 1802.

A translation of this very useful treatise was published in the year 1756 by Mr. Farneworth; which version is adopted by the present editor, enriched by additions from Père Lamy, and by some judicious notes of his own.—The work of the Abbé Fleury is too well appreciated by the public to need any comment from us; and indeed

* See Rev. vol. xxxi. N. S. p. 204.

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the terms in which the late pious Bishop Horne spoke of it are in themselves sufficient to stamp a value on it. We shall therefore only add that the edition before us is rendered very complete by a copious index to the whole.

Art. 17. *Case respecting the Maintenance of the London-Clergy*, briefly stated by Reference to authentic Documents. By John Moore, LL.B. 8vo. 2s. Rivingtons.

Mr. Moore offered proposals for printing, by subscription, a new edition of Bishop Walton's treatise concerning the payment of tithes in London, with notes and a continuation: but, not receiving adequate encouragement, he has compressed the substance within the limits of a pamphlet. The mode of paying the London-Clergy, before and subsequent to the reformation, is here detailed; and, according to Mr. M.'s statement, which he pledges himself is a fair one, the incumbents receive at present a stipend which is far short of their dues. They look for relief from parliament; and all that they wish, it is added, is that, in settling the future produce of their benefices, it may be remembered that the demands which they shall be empowered to make are a composition for personal tithes, as well as oblations due from the inhabitants, and are to afford a suitable maintenance for the clergy of the most opulent commercial city in the world.

A document drawn up in 1638 is added, containing in the first column a list of the benefices within and without the walls; in the 2d, the amount of the tithes now paid according to the report of the clergy:—in the 3d, tithes paid according to the report of the city;—and in the 4th, an estimate of the tithes as they ought to be paid, according to the value of the houses.

Art. 18. *Methodism unmasked;* or the Progress of Puritanism, from the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Century: Intended as an explanatory Supplement to "Hints to the Heads of Families." By the Rev. T. E. Owen, A.B. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Hatchard.

Harsh and intemperate invective neither assists sound argument, nor prepares the mind of an opponent for receiving it; and therefore we must always protest against its use. Though we are not partial to Methodism, and lament its operation on the common mind, we are never disposed to vilify its professors; who are generally less the objects of blame than of pity. Mr. Owen solemnly deprecates religious persecution: but his charge against sectarists of all kinds, and particularly against the Methodists, as being 'either blind instruments or wilful tools in the hands of Anarchists and Atheists,' is of a very serious nature; and his anecdote of some of this sect, who belonged to a volunteer corps, and who refused to be drilled on a Sunday, does not in the smallest degree substantiate the accusation. We are of opinion that the Methodists, and other sectaries, carry their religious observance of Sunday to a superstitious extreme: but, when *conscience* is pleaded, and their strictness in religious duty on that day is universally known, it is little short of calumny to class them as willing tools in the hands of Atheists. We suspect, moreover, though we have never heard one syllable of the case in question, that the

the matter is not fairly stated: these people might object to be exercised on a Sunday, without 'refusing to bear arms in defence of king and country, against a foreign foe.' Their maxim, we believe, is, that works of necessity and mercy are to be done at all times; and we are confident that, in case of actual invasion, when this necessity would be indisputable, the Methodist would not plead the observance of Sunday in order to excuse himself from combating the public enemy.

Some of the extracts here adduced prove the ignorance and the hypocrisy of individuals, but do not impeach their loyalty. The *Jacobinical Mysteries of Methodism* are mere phantoms of the imagination: and Mr. Owen ought not, on the evidence which he has produced, to accuse any of this sect of 'hoping to feast on the spoils of private property, and to wallow in the wealth of nations.'

Mo-y.

EDUCATION.

Art. 19. *Lecteur François: ou Recueil de Pièces, en Prose et en Vers, tirées des meilleurs Ecrivains. Pour servir à perfectionner les jeunes gens dans la Lecture; à étendre leur Connoisance de la Langue Française; et à leur inculquer des Principes de Vertu et de Piété. Par* Lindley Murray, *Auteur d'une Grammaire Anglaise*, &c. 12mo. 4s. 6d. Boards. Longman and Rees. 1802.

The favourable reception of Mr. Murray's *English Reader* * has prompted him to undertake the present compilation; which is conducted on the same plan and calculated to afford the same assistance to the student of the *French* language, that the *English* work was designed to administer to our youth in relation to their own tongue. The extracts are, for the most part, taken from the best writers of the age of Louis XIV., and afford specimens of various styles and modes of composition. Especial care has been taken to render the study of eloquence subservient to virtue, and to introduce only such pieces as shall answer the double purpose of promoting good principles, and a correct and elegant taste.—This will, no doubt, be found a very useful school book.

Do

Art. 20. *A Series of Geographical Questions*, for the Use of Young Persons. 12mo. 1s. 6d. Johnson.

This *appendix*-work may be accommodated to any geographical treatise, but it was particularly designed for a small publication intitled *A new Introduction to Geography, in a Series of Lessons for Youth*. He that can answer all the questions put in this volume must know a great deal; and a great deal of his knowlege will not be worth having. Admitting, however, the propriety of the end to be answered, the book is skilfully drawn up.

R.W.

Art. 21. *An Introduction to the Use of the Globes*, with Questions for Examination annexed. Designed principally for the Use of Schools. 2d Edition, with Corrections and Additions. 12mo. 3s. 6d. Boards. Johnson.

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* See Rev. vol. xxix. N. S. p. 464. and vol. xxxv. p. 444.

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We are much pleased with the perusal of this little book: which contains considerable information, communicated clearly, precisely, and without pedantry. One or two objectionable parts, however, occurred to our notice; as in page 1, *round* and *spherical* are made synonymous; in page 3, the earth is said to be a spheroid, a thing not evidently proved; and in page 161, the conclusion concerning the state of the planets is too *inconsequently* made.

A series of questions is annexed: some of which might puzzle a tutor as well as his pupil. R.W.

Art. 22. *The Accomptant's Guide.* A new System of Arithmetic, for Men of Business, Academies, and Schools. By James Morrison, Glasgow. 8vo. pp. 215. 4s. Boards. Ogle, London.

This treatise seems to be principally adapted for the instruction of young persons destined to a mercantile life. The author is not solicitous to explain the *rationalia* of his rules, but he is very liberal of examples for them: a circumstance which, considering the end and destination of the work, is in its favour; and it contains a greater variety of matter than the generality of treatises on the same plan.—A brief and satisfactory account is given of the nature of insurances, exchange with foreign countries, &c., and short tables are inserted for the amount of annuities for any number of years certain, for the value of annuities on single and joint lives according to Demoivre's hypotheses, &c. Dº

POLITICS, *&c.*

Art. 23. *The Possession of Louisiana by the French, considered,* as it affects the Interest of those Nations more immediately concerned, viz. Great Britain, America, Spain, and Portugal. By George Orr, Esq. 8vo. 1s. Ginger.

Such thoughts, after such deeds!! The reflections made by Mr. Orr, in a former pamphlet on the cession of Malta (see our Rev. for Feb.) and in the present on that of Louisiana, are not very honourable to modern peace-makers. Statesmen seem to have opposed the French spirit of aggrandizement with as little success in treaty-making as in war-making; and there is every reason for apprehending that the effects of their short-sighted policy will be entailed on future generations. France, by her late treaties, has laid the foundation for extending her colonial and commercial system to a most alarming degree. By Malta and Egypt she still hopes to open a direct path to the eastern world; and by St. Domingo, Louisiana, and her settlements in South America, to establish a decided preponderance in the Western hemisphere. Her insatiable ambition is sufficiently developed; and, in the present state of Europe, it is much easier to lament the evil than to prescribe a practical remedy.

Mr. Orr judiciously adverts to the consequences which may arise from the possession of that vast track on the western bank of the Mississippi called Louisiana, by the French. He considers it as enabling them to direct in their favour the commercial intercourse of *South* and probably of *North* America; and to seize on the wealth of Mexico and Peru. 'If (says he) the French fix themselves in force on the continent of America, we may, in the event of another rupture,

rupture, bid a lasting farewell to our West India possessions, which will be considered as an appendage to the main land, and which it will be impossible to hold, except at the pleasure and sufferance of the French government.' Louisiana, as commanding the navigation of the Mississippi, would open to them a way through the lakes even to Canada, by which means they would encircle the United States, and be very troublesome neighbours to the Americans. In short, much mischief might be apprehended from this imprudent cession.

Seneca wrote *after* and not *before* the birth of Christ, as mentioned by Mr. Orr, p. 15.

☞ Since the above remarks were written, the public has been informed that Louisiana is to be ceded by the French to the Americans.

Mo-y.

Art. 24. *Observations and Reflections on the Impropriety of interfering with the internal Policy of other States.* By the Rev. William Benson, A. M. of St. Mary Hall, Oxon. In a Letter addressed to the Right Hon. Henry Addington, &c. 8vo. 1s. Debrett.

A censure on the conduct of our news-papers for their abuse of the Chief Consul of France; eked out with the fag end of an old sermon, in which the Minister is instructed in the nature of baptism, and on other points with which Mr. Benson (we hope) is better acquainted than with Politics.

Do

Art. 25. *Remarks on the late War in St. Domingo*, with Observations on the relative Situation of Jamaica, and other interesting Subjects. By Colonel Chalmers, late Inspector General of the Colonial Troops in St. Domingo. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Rivingtons.

The late Mr. Bryan Edwards, and the author of *the Crisis of the Sugar Colonies* *, with other writers, have asserted the impossibility of regaining St. Domingo from the Blacks by employing European troops against them. Colonel Chalmers, however, is of a different opinion; in support of which, he assigns various reasons deduced from actual knowlege and experience. 'The value of this island (he says) is incalculable, for it contains more fertile land than almost all the other West India islands; and by its happy and imperial situation, it absolutely shuts up the Windward Passage, the key of which is its admirable harbour Cape Nicolas Mole; and, on its south side, it bids fair eventually to domineer Darien and Panama.' Of this island, the British troops were invited to take possession, and the public are well acquainted with the fatal result: but Colonel Chalmers undertakes to explain the cause of our misfortunes, and to rectify some mistakes which prevail respecting this subject. He denies that the force of Toussaint, the Black General, ever was or could be formidable. 'Before the revolution (he says), the number of negroes in St. Domingo amounted to 500,000: but let not the reader suppose that number, as in Europe, will afford fifty or sixty thousand to bear arms,—by no means; for these people are subject to yaws, ruptures, venereal and other maladies, which unfit those timid men for war, to which they have almost an insuperable aversion.' Hence he con-

* See Rev. for January last, p. 73.

tends that, had Toussaint mustered every man fit to bear arms, he could not have brought into the field half of the number of which his force was represented to consist; and that miscarriages in St. Domingo are not to be attributed to the magnitude of the object, to the considerable republican force, nor to the lukewarm attachment of the inhabitants who invoked the British protection, but to mismanagement, and the dereliction of obvious rules of conduct. We cannot enter on those subjects to which the author digresses: but we are happy in learning from his report that no island in the West Indies is so defensible as Jamaica. This is comfortable information at the present moment, considering the force of the French in this part of the world.

Mo-y.

Art. 26. *Memorial addressed to the Sovereigns of Europe and the Atlantic.* By Governor Pownall, Author of a former one published in 1780*. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Debrett.

The pericrania of politicians may now be expected to teem with speculations on the singular state of Europe. New circumstances demand new arrangements: but, when old principles are subverted, we generally want wisdom to prescribe for the future, or ability to carry its suggestions into effect. It is difficult to decide on the best remedies for existing political evils, or on the preventatives that ought to be adopted to ward off those which seem to threaten the world. Governor Pownall, however, feels himself as a state-physician in some degree equal to the case; and being a man of experience, his opinion, if it be not followed, should at least receive attention. He ascribes the revolutionary changes which have so convulsed and deranged Europe, to events that took place forty-five years ago in America; then, after having traced their course to the present time, he notices the situation in which Great Britain, cut off in interest as well as relative position from the continent, is now placed, together with those nations which he calls Atlantic powers; and he points out the measures which he apprehends should be pursued, in order to maintain their existence, power, and interest: finally subjoining remarks on the perversion of the principles of political liberty.

The Governor pronounces that the old conventional balance of power in Europe is dissolved, and that the centre on which it poised is overturned. He thinks that with France, which assumes to be, on the plan of right, the GREAT NATION, 'no nation or state can live in peace, or act in fair war; or remain in any assured state of neutrality, or hold any relation, in any describable state of alliance, even that of the most favoured nation.' So far from entertaining ideas of permanent peace, he considers the last two or three years (to use the seaman's phrase) as only a *lull* in the storm, and he views Europe as liable to a perpetually renewed state of war; till some Great Nation, France for instance, shall take from other nations the power of resistance, or till *the equilibrium of a triumvirate of powers* be established.

It is recommended to Great Britain, as being 'cut off from the continent,' to commence a new system in this new era; to form a

* See Rev. vol. lxiii. p. 104.

GREAT

GREAT MARINE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE; and particularly to unite itself by a kind of family-compact with the states of North America. Portugal is advised to transfer the seat of empire to Brasil; and the Spanish Provinces in South America are urged to erect themselves into an independent Empire. Though, however, the author preaches rebellion to the inhabitants of New Spain, he charges us, on the terra firma of Old England, to discountenance all revolutionary theories; and he admonishes both governors and the governed to respect the principles of our free constitution. Mo-y.

AGRICULTURE.

Art. 27. *A Lecture introductory to a Course of Lectures on the Theory and Practice of Agriculture*, by a Society of practical Farmers, delivered at the Agricultural Institution, Spring Gardens, on Tuesday Feb. 8. 1803. 4to. 3s. 6d. White.

Neither the name of any individual member of this society, nor even that of the lecturer, is given in this introductory publication. He describes himself, indeed, as 'a blunt farmer,' and professes to deliver "an unvarnished tale:" but we soon found that no two objects could less resemble each other, than this gentleman and the picture which he has drawn for his own likeness. He deems it necessary to apologize for 'a tale devoid of poetic imagery,' as if the Muses were expected to preside in full assembly over the oratory of a practical farmer; and, besides, he might well have spared his apology, since never was there 'a blunt farmer' less deficient in poetic imagery. In his first period, he boasts of 'possessing the talisman of conscious rectitude,' and of being 'attracted by the dazzling meed of well-earned praise.' He speaks of 'individual experience being amalgamated into one common mass:'—of 'a blaze of extravagant profusion, radiating from the centre to the circumference, embittering the cup of contented simplicity:'—of 'a paucity of vital air:'—of 'the broad sunshine of sanguine expectation':—of 'the sunken rocks of speculative theory, and the baffling currents of delusive experiment.' These are specimens of *bluntness* which all plain farmers may not easily understand.

After much general observation, the lecturer proceeds to develope the outlines of this new Agricultural Institution, (originating, we are told, in his suggestion,) which we shall give in his own words:

'It is our design, in as clear and concise a method as possible, to concentrate and systematize the various parts of this truly noble and useful science. To bring you acquainted with the true principles of fertility, the agency of the elements of which our planet is composed, the nutrition requisite for the support of vegetable life, the modes by which that sustenance is received, and the vigour of the plant augmented or diminished. From this inquiry we shall be enabled to trace the analogies between the animal and vegetable œconomies; and having discovered the causes of health and fecundity dependent upon the inherent energies or functions of plants, the component principles of the soil, solar influence, formation, extrication, and absorption of specific gasses, and the electric fluid, chemical and mechanical properties and action of manures, we shall, by these and other collateral subjects, be enabled to appreciate the effect of the

various ameliorative operations and additions requisite for each distinction and state of soil, to render it a healthy and appropriate nidus for the germination of the seed, and qualified to produce a fruitful and vigorous growth of the succeeding plant: likewise to ascertain the immediate causes of and predisposition to the various diseases in the vegetable system; a knowledge highly important, upon which the superior quality or total failure of a crop not unfrequently depend.'—

'After explaining to you the theoretic principles of agricultural science, we shall speak of the operative. And in embracing the various subjects I before mentioned, in reciting the necessary branches of professional attainment, I trust it will not appear to you that I arrogate to the Society more than is their due, when I profess, in their name, to point out to you considerable improvements in management calculated to insure more abundant returns of profit and a diminution of expence; methods resulting from observation and thinking, which have been adopted with success in their own practice, and having received their full approbation, can with confidence be recommended to you.'

The author promises to explain, in the course of his lectures, by what means the disease called *smut* in wheat may 'with certainty be prevented.'—Should this be accomplished, some benefit will undoubtedly result from this new institution.

This pamphlet is very elegantly printed;—not like 'a blunt farmer's' production. Mo.y.

POETIC.

Art. 28. *Poems.* By John Lowe, jun. of Manchester. Crown 8vo. 4s. Boards. Richardson. 1803.

Of all the strange productions which we have seen issue from the press under the title of poems, this volume is one of the strangest. The author appears to possess imagination, and to have been gifted by nature with at least *an inclination* for writing verse: but of any improvement by study or instruction he seems to be utterly destitute; and euphony and grammar are spurned with the most consistent defiance. One or two specimens will speak for themselves better than we can characterize them:

'A thousand females follow'd, raiments white,
And shapes exquisite beauty: th' sister stars,
That form th' Cassiop'an elegance nor seem,
Nor half so beauteous, nor half so bright!'

'*Be it* ease
Of moving elegance, *or* fairy taste, or powers
To shake the soul with music, or with eyes
Of sweet confusion, feel what's honour'd love!
Say, nor doth Bacchus, nor mad Momus, say,
Nor Ate, Achille's,—fur'ous Alecto,
Acidalia, Juno, Laverna,
Busiris, Discordia, Sthenobeia,
Nor Silenus, *approves, th' eternal mind!*

Lesra

Learn *thence*, they hate *them*, (as Almighty Jove,
Nor smiles propitious at abused power,)
But Aglaia loves (*he*) Agenoria,
Apollo, Bolina, Calliope,
Joyful Cerealia, and Maturna,
Melliæ and Mellona, Occator,
Orpheus, loves *he*, and Penelope,
And Pomona and Rhadamanthus, *he*,
Auspic'ous Terpsichore and Vitula.' *

Mediocrity, it is asserted, cannot be tolerated in poetry by either "gods or men:" but Mr. Lowe must entertain no fears on this ground. His claims to *distinction* are pre-eminent! G. 2.

Art. 29. *The frantic Conduct of John Bull, for a Century past:* or a Review of his Wars and Debts. A Poem, in Two Cantos. Dedicated to the Right Hon. Henry Addington, Chancellor of the Exchequer. 8vo. 2s. Ridgway. 1803.

Though these doggerel rhimes are often hobbling, vulgar, and ungrammatical, they bear the features of true satire, and prove the author to be gifted with some penetration. If his mode of treating his subject be not quite new, his work certainly is not tedious. Poor John Bull is treated with very little ceremony; and his past conduct, in needlessly pushing his head into quarrels, squandering his money, and entailing debts on his children, is adduced to prove him mad, or 'governed by Old Nick.' On the other hand, his antagonist across the herring-pond does not escape castigation, but is represented as having weakly sported with the name of Liberty:

'Thy cause, indeed, was like to fail,
Thou'dst neither ballast, rope, nor sail;
Drov'st without compass, anchor, helm,
Thy miscreants delug'd all the realm.
At murder, guillotine, and dagger,
Thy injur'd friends began to stagger;
No longer could maintain thy cause,
When thou had'st thus blasphem'd its laws;
Before thy enemies were dumb,
And fear'd for thee to wag their tongue.
With inward shame they hung their head,
When vice triumph'd and virtue bled:
Wept, that such dismal deeds were done
Before so bright an opening sun.
Since such fair prospects you could blast,
And call a curse down at the last;
Since heaven's best blessing you confound,
I speak your loss with grief profound;
Since liberty, that precious gift,
By vice and faction 's turn'd adrift;
Since thus you've *polished your old chain*,
With patience wear the link again.'

* The italics, contractions, and mode of punctuation, in these lines, are exactly copied from the book.

On returning to the history of John Bull, the author accuses him of taking a crooked view of his neighbour's difficulties; and, in conclusion, he gives a summary of John's conduct for more than a hundred years past:

'Thus, John, we've view'd thy conduct o'er
For a whole century or more;
Thy wars, thy bloody toil and sweat,
And thy huge pile of public debt,
Rearing its head into the cloud,
Which speaks thy wisdom out aloud.
For, if we ascertain these facts,
And measure them by private acts,
The course, my friend, which thou hast run,
Exceeds whate'er before was done.
No private madman in his cell
Such wond'rous prodigies can tell.
Thou'st teem'd them out, from year to year,
As constant as the rolling sphere.
Sixteen thousand pounds a day,
And upward, John, thous't thrown away,
For a whole century together.
What think'st thou of this long stretch'd tether?
From which wert thou to take a swing,
'Twould make the very welkin ring,
Whirling with such a rapid bound,
As might all human sense confound.
But thou art, John, so senseless grown,
Thy hide so tough, so thick thy crown,
That we despair to cure thy folly,
Either by mirth or melancholy.'

In a gloomy postscript in prose, the author considers it as certain that poor John Bull must *hasten* again to fighting, borrowing, and funding, till his name becomes extinct. If this be the case, our situation is too serious to be made the subject of playful satire: but this is the despair of a poet; and when poets despair, it is always *with a vengeance*.

Art. 30. *Pictures of British Female Poesy.* By W. Case jun. of Lynn. 12mo. 1s. 6d. Crosby.

This poem enumerates but a partial list of our female worthies in the ranks of literature. Those, however, whom the muse has selected, are sufficient to attest the sensibility and taste of the author. His merits and theirs are alike conspicuous in the varied measure of his song.

NOVELS.

Art. 31. *Home.* 12mo. 5 Vols. 1l. sewed. Mawman. 1803.

If the fair writer of these volumes, whom we understand to be Miss Cullen, a native of the northern part of our island, had no claim on the indulgence of the critic from the intrinsic merit of her work, the very title itself would awaken our benevolence, since "Charity begins

begins at Home:"—but there is no occasion for urging this or any other previous plea in behalf of the present publication. We have read it with very considerable pleasure, and esteem it on the whole as justly intitled to our approbation. The variety of characters and their peculiar traits, which are exhibited with accuracy and precision, display a mind accustomed to much observation, and able to form valuable reflections on the checker'd scene of human life: yet we do not accede to every opinion here advanced. Though the sentiments of Mrs. Almorne, for example, are generally just and philosophical, occasionally we discover somewhat too romantic in her system: as when she proposes to train up the female world in the use of fire-arms, which appears to us, on many accounts, an *exceptionable* plan; and her censure of affection shewn to unworthy relations is too unlimited. Attachments of this sort, being fixed in the mind by early impressions and associations, become a part of our nature, and answer many important purposes. The same process endears to us our native habitation and our native country; and we cannot consent to break asunder this bond of "natural affection."

We have observed several inaccuracies of expression, also, as well as of reasoning: such as 'the landscapes which *laid* on a table,'—'some books which *laid* on the counter,' and '*late of departing*,' an expression by no means familiar on this side of the Tweed; and we must add that the story is unnecessarily dilated through five volumes; by which means the reader is obliged to travel over occasional deserts which fatigue him. Man.

Art. 32. *Something New*: or Adventures at Campbell-House. By Anne Plumptre. 12mo. 3 Vols. 15s. Boards. Longman and Co.

We have looked in vain for novelty and entertainment in these three volumes of adventures: unless it be new and entertaining to introduce a ghost, and resolve it unskilfully into an effect of natural causes; to intersperse pretty oaths and imprecations by way of pleasantries; to quote Latin words ungrammatically; and, in a word, to write without the qualifications becoming a writer. Do

Art. 33. *Helen of Glenross*. 12mo. 4 Vols. 16s. Boards. Robinsons.

If we cannot allot any great degree of commendation to these volumes, we by no means condemn them *in toto*. They occasionally display a portion of humour, and exhibit with some force the various absurd or excentric traits of character: but they possess not sufficient animation and interest to work on the reader's affections, and he becomes tired of the theme of love and marriage, offers, and rejections. A lady of fashion here talks of 'hashing the business' of a husband keeping a mistress, (vol. iv. p. 172.):—an application of the art of cookery with which we are not acquainted. Do

Art. 34. *Lady Geraldine Beaufort*. By a Daughter of the late Serjeant Wilson. 12mo. 3 Vols. 10s. 6d. Boards. Robinsons.

Most of the characters which compose this history are cast in a licentious mould, and a general contagion seems to pervade the parties.

Even those, who are made to conduct themselves for a time with propriety, are represented as fluctuating between duty and desire. We hasten, therefore, to quit the scene, lest the impure atmosphere affect ourselves and our readers.

We regret our obligation to speak in these terms of a production which avowedly flows from the pen of a female: but we cannot consider this circumstance as mitigating the offence. Man.

Art. 35. *The Follies of Fashion:* a Dramatic Novel. 12mo. 3 Vols. 13s. 6d. Boards. Longman and Co.

The first volume of these letters is occupied chiefly in love-scenes between Sir John Scarsdale and Miss Aubrey: but, in the 2d and 3d volumes, we are brought more immediately into the vortex of dissipation in London, amid balls, plays, and masquerades. Here the author takes frequent opportunity to animadvert on "the follies of fashion," and makes it his laudable aim to impress on his fair readers the sentiments of virtue and benevolence.

This novel is not without defects and inconsistencies, but it affords frequent room for commendation; and few, we conceive, will read some of the incidents without confessing, in the words of Aufidius *, —"I too was moved." Do

Art. 36. *A Series of Novels.* By Madame de Genlis. 4 Vols. 12mo. 18s. Boards. Longman and Co. 1802.

The tales contained in these volumes are intitled: *Apostacy; or the Religious Fair.—Mademoiselle de Clermont.—The Herdsmen of the Pyrenées.—The Reviewer.—The Castle of Kolmeras.—The Man of Worth.—The perplexed Lover.—Destiny; or the Unfortunate.—The Princess des Ursins.—The Green Petticoat.—The Husband turned Tutor.—The Palace and the Cot.*—And *A Woman's Prejudices.* They are taken from a collection of novels published by *Maradan* at Paris, under the title of *La Bibliothéque des Romans*, conducted by *Madame de Genlis* and other French writers; and their general merit may be conjectured from a previous knowlege of the genius, taste, and sentiments of that lady. They will be found to be interesting and moral: but they are romantic, and the incidents belong more to the *romance* than to what the English understand by a *novel*, which purports to be a natural series of events, such as may be expected in real life. Among Madame de Genlis's representations, which to us, at least, must be deemed extravagant, a Reviewer is made to fall *desperately in love* with a girl of seventeen, who dictates the sentiments of his journal. Love may have much influence over criticism in France: but things are managed otherwise in England; where the lilies and roses of seventeen do not disturb the imaginations of such veterans as Reviewers. Moy.

MEDICAL.

Art. 37. *Practical Observations on Vaccination: or Inoculation for the Cow Pock.* By John Redman Coxe, M.D. One of the Physicians to the Pennsylvania Hospital. Embellished with a coloured

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* Shakspeare's Coriolanus.

Engraving,

Engraving, representing a comparative View of the various Stages of the Vaccina and Small-Pox. 8vo. pp. 152. Printed at Philadelphia. 1802. Sold in London by Johnson. Price 6s.

While vigorous and effectual measures are employed throughout Europe for extending the benefits of vaccine inoculation, our medical brethren on the other side of the Atlantic are not inattentive to the importance of this practice. No institution, as we are informed, has yet been established in America for the purpose of favouring this object, but the zealous exertions of private individuals have contributed much towards its diffusion. The author of the present publication, with a very commendable zeal for the improvement of his profession, and the dissemination of a discovery so important to the interests of humanity, has collected and arranged, from his own observation, and from the information and works of others, the principal facts relating to the vaccine disease; affording a favourable view of the progress which it has made, and of the ardour with which it is cultivated in the United States of America.

Dr. Coxe adopts the opinion of Dr. Jenner on the origin of cow-pox, with a decision, which to us does not appear perfectly justified by the paucity of evidence. He wishes that, in future, the term inoculation should be confined to the insertion of small-pox matter; while that of vaccination ought alone, in his opinion, to be employed as characteristic of the usual mode of propagating the vaccine influence.—We see no particular advantage which can arise from exclusively appropriating the term inoculation to small-pox, and must therefore object to it, as an unnecessary innovation on established usage.

Yell.

Art. 38. *Observations on the acute Disease of Egypt called the Ophthalmia.* By F. B. Spilsbury, late Surgeon to the Hospital at Barute, &c. 8vo. 2s. Barker. 1802.

The predisposing cause of ophthalmia is supposed by this author to consist in excess of heat and light; the nerves being thus rendered extremely irritable, and more readily affected by the small particles of sand which are constantly flying about, and which he conceives to constitute the exciting cause of the disease. The cure, he thinks, is best effected by removing irritating particles from the eye, drawing blood from its vessels by scarification, applying blisters to or inserting seatons in the nape of the neck, cleansing the *primæ viæ*, giving opiates, and enjoining the antiphlogistic regimen.

This pamphlet is written with a very reprehensible inattention to both verbal and grammatical accuracy.

Do

Art. 39. *An Examination of the Report of the House of Commons on the Claims of Remuneration for the Vaccine-Pock Inoculation*; containing a Statement of the Principal Historical Facts of the Vaccina. By George Pearson, M.D. F.R.S. Physician to the Vaccine-Pock Institution, &c. 8vo. 4s. sewed. Johnson. 1802.

The design of this publication is principally to object to the grounds on which the remuneration has been lately made by the British Parliament to Dr. Jenner; and to assert claims to many improvements in it, as well as to the principal share of its introduction

to

to public notice. We feel considerable regret that a controversy has arisen concerning the comparative merit of men to whom, whatever view of the subject may be taken, the world is under very important obligations: and, as the discussion before us is rather of a personal nature, we do not wish to enter into an examination of the question: particularly since the public are already in possession of the principal documents from which an opinion would be formed.

Dr. Pearson admits that Dr. Jenner was the first to impart this important discovery to the world; and that there is no reason for believing him to be acquainted with any prior inquiries, the existence of which has been asserted. Yell.

Art. 40. *A Treatise on the Cow-Pox;* containing an Enumeration of the principal Facts in the History of that Disease; the Method of communicating the Infection by Inoculation; and the Means of distinguishing between the Genuine and Spurious Cow-Pox. Illustrated by Plates. By George Bell, Surgeon, Edinburgh. 12mo. pp. 115. 3s. Boards. Longman and Co.

This little treatise is directed to and principally intended for the use of the clergy of Scotland, who possess great influence on the minds of the people, and have it in their power to be of very considerable assistance in accelerating the diffusion of vaccine inoculation over that part of the united kingdom. It contains the most material facts on the subject; and we doubt not that it may have its use in still farther extending the knowlege of the vaccine practice.

In performing the operation, the author recommends a puncture to be made between the epidermis and cutis, into which the virus is afterward to be inserted. This appears to be an unnecessary refinement, since the insertion may as effectually be made with one application of an armed lancet. By withdrawing too much matter from the vaccine pustule, he thinks, we may prevent such a quantity of it from being absorbed, as is necessary to produce the required effect on the constitution: but he carries his alarm on this subject to an useless and inconvenient extent, when he enjoins that one pustule should always be left untouched; and indeed there seems to be no ground for the idea which he entertains, unless such a degree of inflammation is produced on the pustule, by abstracting the matter, as will interrupt its usual and regular course.

Mr. Bell mentions, on the authority of Dr. Jenner, as stated in an inaugural dissertation lately published at Glasgow, that sulphur has a remarkable influence in enabling the constitution to resist the infection of Cow-pox. This fact was known from the inoculation of several soldiers failing, immediately after they had concluded a course of friction with sulphur ointment for the itch, though a second insertion of the cow-pox matter, in 2 or 3 weeks afterward, produced the genuine disease. D.o

MISCELLANEOUS.

Art. 41. *Hints to Consumers of Wine,* on the Abuses which enhance the Price of that Article, their Nature and Remedy. By James Walker, Wine Merchant, Leith. 8vo. pp. 66. Vernor and Hood. 1802.

Many

Many sensible observations will be found in this pamphlet, which discusses a subject interesting to most of our readers. The present enormous price of wine is, according to this author, imputable in some measure to the inattention of the consumers, and the mismanagement of the merchant. The taxes laid on this article, however, and the expences attending its importation, all which must be paid immediately on its arrival, increase its price in the proportion of nearly two-thirds of its original cost. The merchant must of necessity, independently of his other charges, be paid interest for the money which he is thus obliged to advance: but to obviate in a great degree this inconvenience, Mr. Walker recommends the merchant not to import his wine until it has remained in the country, in which it is made, as long as it is desirable to keep it in wood; by which means, the wines improve more in their native climate in a shorter period, and the interest on two-thirds of the principal is saved. As soon after its arrival as it has recovered from the fatigue of the voyage, the wine merchant (according to Mr. W.) should bottle it, and *then* the consumer should purchase; letting it remain in his cellar, instead of that of the vendor, during all the interval between its bottling and consumption;—the purchaser should also pay ready money for the article. By pursuing this method, which saves accumulated interest, and lessens the duration of the risk on the part of the merchant, wines of the best quality might be bought for a sum less by one sixth than the amount of their present price.

Mr. Walker concludes his pamphlet with the following directions:

'In the general course of supply, and in every case in which it is possible, let bottled wines, whatever be their quantities, smaller or larger, be bought a proper time before they are wanted for use, taken straight or recent from the wood and laid by, and let them be paid for by ready money. On the other hand, let it be the part of the wine merchant to give such a practice all the encouragement it deserves and requires; let his prices render it beneficial in the highest degree possible. The consumer will find his small trouble amply compensated by his great saving; and the reason of the thing will ever be obvious and strong in this simple consideration, that *two-thirds of the price have no origin in the merchant's business, that is, in the capital sunk in the production of his article, (or, what comes to the same thing, its purchase when produced,) but are the mere amount of certain tolls and duties levied upon it when entering the market in a state quite ready for the consumer: and, therefore, that to keep the seller under this advance is needlessly to load the price as heavily as it must of necessity have been loaded, if the capital requisite for the possession of the article had been three times as great as it actually is.*'

Mr. W. joins in the common wish that some universal standard for the size of bottles could be enforced; as such a standard would put an effectual stop to the existence of shameful impositions in this article. The size sanctioned by the excise statute, namely, that each bottle should be one fifth of a gallon, this writer considers as preferable to other measures; and he represents it as being the most generally adopted in Scotland, containing about seven Scotch gills, rather more than less. In London, the bottles most generally used are what are called *good fourteens*.

Art. S.R.

Art. 42. *Statements submitted to the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, President of the Royal Society of London.* 8vo. 6d. R. Baldwin.

The respectable character of Sir Joseph Banks will receive no injury from these statements; in which, the purport of his letter to the President of the National Institute of France, on being elected a foreign associate, is completely misrepresented. He did not compliment the National Institute as the first *philosophical* (elevating it above our own Royal Society) but only as the first *literary* society in the world; an epithet which does not belong to that body over which he presides, and which is purely confined to scientific investigation.—It is singular that Sir Joseph should have been censured for the omission of the word religion in the above-mentioned letter. He probably thought, as well as the writer of the comments before us, that there was little room for complimenting the French on this head; though he might safely introduce a hope of their return to the love of *virtue* and *justice*.

This pamphlet is printed at Louth, and is probably the production of "*some d—d good-natured friend*" in the neigbourhood of Sir Joseph Banks's country seat.

Art. 43. *Proverbs*; or, the Manual of Wisdom: Being an Alphabetical Arrangement of the best English, Spanish, French, Italian, and other Proverbs. To which are subjoined the Wise Sayings, Precepts, &c. of the most illustrious Antients. Crown 8vo. 3s. Boards. Kirby.

As far as we can judge from a general review of these proverbs, they appear to be judiciously selected, and to be free from that grossness of language or of sentiment, which is too often the defect of proverbial sayings; and which was, perhaps, the reason that induced Lord Chesterfield to banish them from the mouth of a gentleman.—Yet, whatever praise may be due to this collection, there is a proverbial treatise which we more particularly recommend for the moral and practical wisdom that it contains; we mean the much neglected "Proverbs of Solomon."

Art. 44. *The Shakspearean Miscellany:* Containing a Collection of scarce and valuable Tracts; Biographical Anecdotes of Theatrical Performers, with Portraits of ancient and modern Actors (of many of whom there are no Prints extant); scarce and original Poetry, and curious Remains of Antiquity; viz. The Life and surprising Adventures, Miracles, &c. of the Prophet Abraham, from a MS. translated from the Arabic; Account of John of Eltham, with an illustrative Plate; Account of the Death and Burial of the Princess Elizabeth, Daughter of King Charles the First, with a Plate of her Coffin; The Wicker Chair, a Poem, from the MS. of W. Somerville, Esq.; Two Elegies by Dr. Donne, not in any Edition of his Works; The Country Life, a Poem, by Bishop Corbet, not in any Edition of his Works; A poetical Description of a Journey from Margate to Brighthelmstone by Dr. W. Dodd; Curious Epitaphs in Brighton and Rottingdean Churchyards; The Holy Vengeance, a Scotish Ballad, by F. W. G.; A concise History of

of the early English Stage, with Anecdotes and Portraits of the following Authors and Performers, Perkins, Bond, Cartwright, Harris, Pinkethman, Farquhar, Miss Norsa, Theo. Cibber, Redman, and T. Davies. Printed chiefly from MSS. in the Possession of, and with occasional Notes by, F. G. Waldron, Editor of the Literary Museum, Harding's Biographical Mirror, &c. 4to. pp. 180. 5s. Boards. Lackington and Allen. 1802.

We have with exemplary patience transcribed the whole of this most fatiguing title page, in order that our readers may, at one view, perceive what a variety of matter is introduced into this single volume. A more heterogeneous collection we never witnessed, nor one from which less of either amusement or information could be derived. —The engravings constitute the only valuable part of the production. S.R.

Art. 45. *Extracts from a Correspondence with the Academies of Vienna and St. Petersburg*, on the Cultivation of the Arts of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture, in the Austrian and Russian Dominions. To which is prefixed a summary Account of the Transactions of the Royal Academy of London, from the Close of the Exhibition 1801, to the Exhibition at Somerset-House 1802. By Prince Hoare, Member of the Academies of Florence and Cortona, and Secretary for Foreign Correspondence to the Royal Academy of London. 4to. pp. 50. 2s. 6d. White. 1802.

When the author of this publication was appointed secretary for foreign correspondence to our Royal Academy, he communicated to the president and council a design of opening a correspondence with the different academies of Europe, for the purpose of obtaining a general knowlege of the Fine Arts in various countries, as well as of learning the particular degrees of their respective encouragement and cultivation. A design so laudable in itself, and promising such advantages, was naturally approved; and the present pamphlet contains some of the communications which were made in consequence of the letters written by Mr. Hoare.—We are presented with a short view of the state of the fine arts at Vienna and at St. Petersburg, with an account of several of their regulations, the first furnished by M. Fuger, President of the Imperial Academy, and the latter by M. Labzin, the perpetual secretary of the academy at St. Petersburg. A history of the Plastic Arts at Vienna by J. R. Fuseli (brother of the celebrated painter) was transmitted at the same time by M. Fuger, from which several extracts are made.—In return for these communications, the president of our academy has been desired to prepare an account of the historical work from the sacred writings, in which he has been long engaged by his Britannic Majesty; and Messrs. Banks and Flaxman are likewise commissioned to draw up an account of the national works of sculpture about to be executed.

It is pleasing to contemplate such an interchange of good offices, from which considerable advantages to the cause of the Fine Arts may reasonably be expected; and we trust that the particulars of so honourable a correspondence will continue to be given to the public. S.R.

Art.

Art. 46. *A Tour through the whole Island of Great Britain;* divided into Journeys. Interspersed with useful Observations, particularly calculated for the Use of those who are desirous of travelling over England and Scotland. By the Rev. C. Cruttwell, Author of the Universal Gazetteer. 6 Vols. 8vo. 2l. 8s. Boards. Robinsons.

This publication must be considered as a new edition of a work which was printed *for the eighth time* in the year 1778, and of which in our 59th volume we spoke in terms of commendation. The author has acknowleged his obligations, which are indeed many and obvious, to the persevering industry of his predecessors: but he arraigns, rather unnecessarily, their want of plan.

Mr. Cruttwell informs us, in his preface, that 'he has in the present volumes divided the whole of the kingdom into different journeys, as the roads from London may extend, wishing to note all places of which any thing can be recorded worthy the attention of the traveller or the reader; as much as he could, adding historical information to local description, and preferring plain narrative to beautiful or ornamental language. In the first volume, he has given a short view of the history of England, of Wales, and of Scotland; with a survey of each of the counties respecting their antient and their present state, their agriculture, commerce, parliamentary consequence, and population; and this by way of introduction, that the journeys might be less interrupted with observations, in themselves proper, but more applicable to the state of the country at large than the particular town or village in review: this occupies half the first volume. To London and Westminster, with their additions, the remaining part of the volume is allotted; and yet such are the grandeur, commerce, trade, and buildings, of these united cities, that the history and description of their several parts must be necessarily short. From London, the itinerary begins on the right bank of the Thames through Kent to Dover, and proceeds from the south and west progressively towards the north and east, till the reader is brought to the left bank of the Thames in the county of Essex. The journeys through England and Wales, with the islands round the coast of the whole of Great Britain, occupy the second, third, fourth, and fifth volumes. The sixth and last is appropriated to the roads of Scotland only.'

In the summary view of the history of England, we meet with the following observation: 'In the court of King's Bench, there are four judges, the Lord Chief Justice being the first in rank; here matters are determined by common law between the crown and the subject. The court of Common Pleas tries all causes and civil actions between one person and another.'—From this passage, the reader would naturally infer that the court of King's Bench had no jurisdiction over civil actions; when in fact it possesses, independently of its authority in criminal cases, a concurrent jurisdiction over personal actions with the court of Common Pleas: which latter court has an exclusive jurisdiction over *real* actions only, and they are of very rare occurrence.

We have carefully examined many of these journeys, and compared them with the accounts contained in the former edition; and, though

though it is evident that the author has availed himself largely of the labours of former editors, it must be allowed that he has communicated information in which they are defective. Much new matter has occurred since the appearance of the former work, which has been introduced by Mr. Cruttwell. The manner, however, in which he imparts his knowlege is dry and uninteresting; and we think that it would have been no difficult task, with so rich a variety of materials, to have rendered his performance at the same time useful and amusing.—We have noticed some errors of the press, and some misstatements of distance; which, perhaps, in a work consisting so much of figures, are unavoidable.

S.R.

SINGLE SERMONS.

Art. 47. *The Right and Duty of Unitarian Christians to form separate Societies for Religious Worship.* Preached July 22, 1802, at the Opening of the New Meeting-House at Birmingham, erected in the room of that in which Dr. Priestley formerly officiated, and which was destroyed in the Riots, July 14, 1791. By Thomas Belsham. 8vo. 1s. Johnson.

Few productions exhibit greater ability than Mr. Belsham here displays in managing every part of his subject. He alludes to the riots with spirit, and yet with delicacy; he highly extols, as a philosopher and as a Christian, that friend against whom the torrent of lawless violence was directed; and in the clearest manner he unfolds and vindicates the principles of his conduct as an Unitarian. When Mr. B. adverts to the situation of the Corinthian converts, whom St. Paul admonishes, 2 Cor. vi. 16—18; and deduces from the apostle's advice to them a rule of conduct for Unitarians of the present day; he guards the imputation of illiberality, to which he would otherwise have been open, by remarking that he does not represent the two cases on a level. Though he disapproves all civil establishments of religion, he candidly owns that his separation from the Established Church is not grounded on this general principle, nor on any dislike to liturgies and forms of prayer, but on a *diversity of sentiment* with regard to *the object of worship.* He strenuously maintains, for himself and his Unitarian Brethren, the right and duty of Separation; replies to the charges brought against them; and concludes with exhorting them to act with deliberation and firmness, with zeal and peaceableness, with thankfulness for religious toleration, and with candour and charity.

Moy.

Art. 48. *On the Depravity of the Human Heart*; exemplified generally in the Conduct of the Jews, and particularly in that of Lieutenant-Colonel Despard, previous to his Execution. Preached at St. George's, Hanover-Square, Feb. 27, 1803. By the Rev. William Leigh, LL.B. 8vo. 1s. Hatchard.

To the picture of Jewish depravity, a hackneyed topic with divines, instances of atrocious vice in modern times are here added to prove an assertion which we are little disposed to contradict, *that man is still the same.* Colonel Despard's conduct at the place of execution was extremely hardened: but we doubt whether the vices of his mind and those of some French anarchists

justify

justify Mr. Leigh in asserting that 'it is the miserable pride of modern reformers to be equally independent of God and of man: to live without fear and die without compunction.' It is bad reasoning to deduce an universal maxim from particular cases. What would Mr. L. have said to a Catholic preacher, who, on noticing the fate of Dr. Dodd, should observe that it was common for the English clergy to be hanged for forgery? Mr. L.'s general object is more proper, viz. on a view of human depravity, to exhort his audience to self-examination.

CORRESPONDENCE.

In our account of the *Essay on Irish Bulls*, (p. 235. Rev. for March,) we objected to the grave assurance of the ironical nature of the work, which was inserted by the authors at the conclusion; and we asked what would have been said if Swift had added a similar chapter to his *Advice to Servants*. Mr. and Miss Edgeworth have in consequence honoured us with a letter, designed to invalidate this remark, by stating that such *was* the case in Swift's work. We cannot give up this point, however, to our respectable correspondents: for we have to observe, 1st, that, if such really were the fact, it would only afford another and still more remarkable instance of deviation from the rules of good taste, not any justification of the practice: but, 2dly, we maintain that such is *not the case*, because the intimation that the *Advice* was ironical, to which Mr. and Miss E. allude, occurs only in a note, and in a note of *the editor*,—who probably inserted it merely in order to distinguish bewteen the irony which precedes and the grave directions which follow.

The request of Mr. B. of Great Yarmouth, for private communication, and for an anticipation of our critical decisions, is in both points at variance with our customs and our duty. In reply to his other question, we inform him that there is a *General Index* to the first 70 Volumes of the M. R. in two Vols. 8vo., and a continuation in a 3d Vol. bringing down the Index to the end of Vol. 81, or conclusion of the *Old Series*.

A *Constant Reader* is referred to our *General Index*, above mentioned, for a solution of his query.

Clericus is received, but we have not seen the object of his letter.

Sincerus, also, is received.

R. F.'s *Soldiers* will be reviewed on our next Field-Day.

We are requested to rectify a slight error in our Number for March, in which the price of Miss Stone's *Features of the Youthful Mind* should have been stated to be 2s. 6d. instead of 2s.—We hope that this inadvertency will not prejudice the sale of the work, nor the credit of its unfortunate author.

☞ The APPENDIX to the last Volume of the Review is published with this Number, as usual.

P. 6. l. 22. for 'restlessness' r. restlessness.
8. l. 4. after 'was', insert 'designed'.
86. l. 23. dele 'he'.
90. l. 14. dele the words 'the noise made by'.